

The Journal

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Rodney Madeiras, 58, searches for a check in the wreckage of his former home.

Chester King Vega

Caltrans demolishes camp along railroad

By Greg Hugunin

ALBANY — The city's most affordable, although illegal, housing complex was bulldozed into oblivion last week when a Caltrans crew demolished a homeless camp on the Southern Pacific railroad tracks.

In a move which left the camp looking as if it had been struck by a bomb, a Caltrans crew, accompanied by Albany police, county health officials and officers from the railroad police and highway patrol, demolished a handful of ramshackle wood structures beside the railroad tracks last Wednesday, leaving residents to sort through a crater filled with muddy debris. The action stemmed from health concerns and alleged drug dealing, and left perhaps a dozen camp residents looking for a new place to hang their hats.

According to Albany Police Sgt. Bill Palmini, three top loaders, a dozen dump trucks and a crew of chainsaw-wielding Caltrans employees descended on the camp last Wednesday, two days after residents were alerted to the impending demolition. The crews found hypodermic needles, rats and significant

health risks, Palmini said, and removed approximately 65 tons of debris.

While police and health officials cited the destruction as a necessary evil, camp residents picking through what remained of their belongings last Friday challenged allegations of drug dealing and said they were not given enough time to remove their things.

"I think it's a poor excuse for law and order myself," said Brian Lee, 45, who claimed he lost "everything" — including his sleeping bag, tools and clothes — as a result of the bulldozing.

Although police had long known about the camp, a network of homemade wood shanties hidden amid 12-foot-high bushes beside the railroad tracks, it was not deemed a hazard until recently. Daniel Wilson, a senior vector control officer for the county Health Department, said camp residents were living an unsustainable lifestyle by bringing materials into the camp but not taking them out, resulting in a proliferation of garbage.

"The environmental health problems there were reaching a critical mass," said Wilson, adding the

See CAMP on page 14

See CAMP on page 14

City Briefs

Bigger Taco Bell planned

Taco Bell has applied to construct a large restaurant in northern El Cerrito. The fast-food chain wants to construct a new, 2,000 square foot, 57-seat restaurant with drive-through service at 11965 San Pablo, on the west side of the street, north of the BART tracks.

The Planning Division has received applications for two new commercial establishments on San Pablo Avenue. Both are tentatively scheduled for hearings by the Planning Commission and the Design Review Board in January.

Also up for consideration is a reuse of the building formerly housing Travalini's Furniture at 10065 San Pablo. Gold's Gym is requesting both a reduction in parking requirements, since curb parking is available in the area, and extended hours of operation.

City Council agrees on goals for Cerrito Creek restoration

By Dawn Frasier

creek, linking this segment to creek alignments to the west and east.

- Link Cerrito Creek to the Bay Trail.

- The creek corridor should provide opportunities for visual and physical linkages between Albany and El Cerrito.

- The creek should be an open, natural channel along its entire length within the Plaza area.

- Restore the creek channel as a natural corridor with habitat enhancement.

- Provide a variety of uses and diversity of experiences along the creek alignment.

- Extend the open creek channel

to San Pablo Avenue and investigate the potential to realign the creek to the north of the Wells Fargo building and to make a visible connection across San Pablo Avenue.

- Provide for physical access by pedestrians to the creek channel.

- Design and improvements should be accomplished in consultation and cooperation with creek restoration and design professionals.

About a year ago, the city retained Brady and Associates to do some conceptual design work for the creek. The consultant came up with two design alternatives.

"They're variations on similar ideas," said city planner Ed Phillips. "One is more extensive

than the other."

Alternative A is the more extensive scheme, with the creek fully opened-up except for a grated covering in a narrow space in front of the professional building. Two pads are shown for restaurants or other uses. The parking area near the end of Cornell Avenue could be used for special activities like a farmers' market.

Alternative B is more conservative and deals only with the existing open creek, with somewhat more parking and consequently steeper creek banks.

A landscaped pathway continues from Evelyn to the Ohlone Greenway. The pathway is shown crossing a bridge to the Albany side

near Stannage Avenue. Only one pad site is shown.

According to Phillips, the schemes served as the material basis for deciding the objectives to be set for creek development.

In August, a joint study session was held by the Planning Commission, the Design Review Board and the Redevelopment Advisory Committee. Preliminary objectives were reviewed by the groups; Brady and Associates distilled the final nine objections from those discussions.

Twenty specific comments and questions not incorporated into the final objectives were also reported to the council.

Among issues raised were that

the design of the east end of the creek serve as a pedestrian/bicycle gateway to the Plaza, that any renovation avoid treating the creek as a "back door" to Plaza development, that "useful" spaces be created at creek level so people can walk in the channel, that loading docks and the rear of buildings not be sited immediately adjacent to the creek and that crime and security concerns be addressed.

Creek renovation cannot proceed until plans for the Plaza are settled — when a development team is chosen for its renovation, for example.

"While developers are being considered, this will be on record as what the city desires for (improvement) of the creek," Phillips said.

El Cerrito moves to bury utilities

Streets with lots of wires will get attention first

Dawn Frasier

EL CERRITO — There hasn't been a lot of good financial news in El Cerrito in recent months, but there will soon be funding available to get some unsightly electrical wires undergrounded. The city has received notification from PG&E that El Cerrito will have \$148,096 available by the end of 1996 for such projects. Utilities companies, such as

PG&E and Pacific Bell, allocate certain monies for projects of public benefit, said community development manager Gerry Raycraft. In this case, the project has to involve undergrounding that would avoid or eliminate an unusually heavy concentration of overhead lines, involve a street or road with high public traffic volume, or benefit a civic or public recreation area of unusual scenic interest.

Between 1989 and 1991, the city created two underground utility districts at Kearney/Wall Avenue and Hill Street.

The focus of both districts was primarily to remove overhead utility lines on San Pablo Avenue. Cre-

ation of the districts allowed the city to assist three projects with their undergrounding efforts, using PG&E funds: Home Depot, Del Norte Place and Target.

Now, the city would like to assist new development projects in town in getting unsightly wires below ground. Two weeks ago, city staff members met with PG&E staff members to evaluate potential underground utility districts at El Cerrito Plaza and the proposed Del Norte Marketplace.

The Plaza does not qualify as a project because the overhead utility lines are located on private property. Fairmount Avenue does qualify, however. Community

planning workshops identified the street as an important focus for any revitalization efforts in the southern part of the city.

And as far as Raycraft is concerned, See UTILITIES on page 14



Bob Good, Kim Denton and Owen Jones were sworn in at Albany's City Council meeting Monday.

Noah Berger

Albany seats new council regime

By Greg Hugunin

ALBANY — After more than two and a half years of sitting one chair away, Bob Good ascended to the mayor's seat Monday night by unanimous vote of the new City Council.

The vote, which elevated Councilmember Bruce Mast to the position of vice mayor, came after an official swearing-in for newly-elected city officials. More than 40 people made their way through the rain to watch the ceremony, which saw Jon Ely and Peggy Thomsen step up to the council, Bill Cain and Owen H. Jones to the Board of Education, and Treasurer Kim Denton to her third term in office.

The meeting began with the previous council certifying the Nov. 5 vote, at which point Councilmember Thelma Rubin said her final words as an Albany politician. After noting that this would be the first time since 1974 she would not be serving on any political bodies, Rubin

praised her fellow retiree, former Albany Mayor Mike Brodsky, saying, "No one has been more dedicated, more focused on environmental values, than our mayor."

Rubin also gave a pat on the back to City Administrator Daren Fields for reorganizing the city during his two years at the helm, and gave thanks to Albany's elected department heads, saying "it is a measure of their tolerance that they remain

friendly with me," despite her repeated attempts to make their offices appointed.

"My wish for all of us is for a civilized society," said Rubin, who ended her career in city politics with a heart-felt "Shalom." She was sent off amid a standing ovation and hugs from her fellow council members.

City Clerk Jacqueline Bucholz then swore in the new officials, who promised to defend the constitutions of California and the United States "against all enemies, foreign and domestic."

The new council then took their seats, at which point council member Elizabeth Baker nominated Good for mayor and Mast for vice

mayor. With a grin and a raise of his eyebrows, Good cast the fifth and final "aye," launching himself into the Mayor's seat.

Good was passed over for the seat last year when the council voted Brodsky into an unusual second term. Brodsky, who says he is retiring from city politics to pursue a Ph.D. in English, served two years, eight months as mayor.

Down to business

The new council members were barely getting comfortable in their seats when their first order of business raised its head. Cardroom opponent Jerri Holan addressed them on the hearing, scheduled for Monday.

See COUNCIL on page 14

Movies make modern Christmas-time tradition

THIS WEEK, I MADE MY LIST, checked it twice, checked it some more. Eventually, experience tells me I'll have to drive out among 'em. In the meantime, I'm taking a momentary respite from Christmas denial, from foot-dragging avoidance of the rush and crush, and going to the movies. Not film, not The Cinema — the movies, my help in ages past.

The Movie of the Week is *Mission: Impossible*, just out on video. No, I did not pay \$7.50 at a multiplex, up from 75 cents; my cat William and I lounged on our couch for \$3.25. Warning: The following commentary is not suitable for adults who have not seen this picture show and prefer not to know how it ends.

AS A DIEHARD FAN OF the long-gone television series, I'm giving the new *Impossible* four fingers and two thumbs up, Siskel and Ebert notwithstanding. Possibly non-fans, they didn't catch on that the movie is a very funny take-off. Sure, it runs rough shod over rubber faces and eternal tinkering, but to fans with a sense of humor classics are not necessarily sacred holy writ.

Anyway, they kept inviolate two of old *Impossible*'s best identifying features: the theme by Lalo Shifrin and the burning fuse. And the words from the sixties, "Should any of your team be caught or killed, the Secretary will disavow any knowledge of your actions," don't seem nearly so impossible nowadays.

THE CLOSE-KNIT IMPOSSIBLE Mission Force (IMF), first masterminded by Dan Briggs (Steven Hill) and later by Jim Phelps (Peter Graves), hung together though thick and thin and never failed to accomplish a mission. Minutes into the movie the mission goes up in smoke. The Barney Collier (Greg Morris) character is shot among the cables of the requisite elevator. The beautiful decoy from the sexist sixties, formerly known as Cinnamon Carter (Barbara Bain), is stabbed from behind through a wrought iron gate. In these miniaturized times, the moviemakers had no need for old strongman Willie Armitage (Peter Lupus), who could carry a trunk with a fat villain in it as if it was so many feathers.

And the team leader, Jim Phelps (Jon Voight in 1996), is shot, falls into a river, the Danube was it the Dnieper, and drowns! With practically the whole movie left to go, only Tom Cruise, the equivalent of the old Rollin Hand (Martin Landau), remains. I'm



By Phyllis Lyon

guessing that Tom, like Arnold and Sylvester, doesn't care much for team role-playing. The Star's gotta do what The Star's gotta do.

SO TOM, NOW DISABOWED by the Secretary, sets out alone to find the list of names of secret agents, pseudonyms and real names, thus to expose the bad guys who massacred the team. The viewer's impossible mission, as it always was, is to follow the dense weave of a plot riddled with dropped threads and unravelling edges. Who's good? Who's bad? Who knows? Well, except for Vanessa Redgrave, the scheming arch-villainess, Max.

There's the old, but good, scene where Tom hangs from a 32-foot ceiling to steal a computer disc, not daring to touch the floor where a drop of water will set off the alarm. Watch out, he's sweating (The old IMF did it once with a cat on a catwalk).

Cutting to the chase, what a chase it is. Not only is Jon Voight not dead, turns out he is the mole in the machinery. Jim Phelps did it! It reminds me of the Margaret Truman mystery in which the President's daughter is the killer. Tom, on top of a french TGV train going 190 mph through a tunnel, jumps onto a helicopter which explodes killing Jon. Tom blows back onto the train and lives happily ever after. The movie out-imposses impossible and that's the point, Gene and Roger, and the fun of it.

TO EASE INTO A HOLIDAY MODE, my personal favorite movie is *A Christmas Story* which is sweet, funny and cuts a wide swath around seasonal smarm. The 1983 recreation of a family Christmas in 1930's Cleveland unfolds around a boy (Peter Billingsley) who desperately wants to get a Red Ryder BB gun and a harried father (Darren McGavin) who, among other things, wins a lamp shaped like a woman's leg, the major prize in a newspaper crossword puzzle contest.



result of Measure H was to raise funds for purposes other than fire suppression. Voters saw through this scheme, and refused to support the measure," continued Delehunt.

"By pushing this measure as they did, the City Council has moved even further along a path that is unfriendly to business," stated Bill Kerber, from the group Business People Against Measure H. "This doesn't help create a healthy business climate in El Cerrito, and as a result, ad hoc business groups organized — eventually joined by the Chamber of Commerce — to defeat the

measure."

We believe serious issues still face El Cerrito and citizens need to be involved in helping develop appropriate solutions. The council to be part of this partnership. A more open and continuous citizen participation forum to be maintained in order to bring the community closer together — not make it more divisive forward.

Anne Delehunt
Bill Kerber
El Cerrito

Contra Costa warrants lead to arrest in Albany

By K. Osborn

cited and released when sober.

• On the afternoon of Dec. 5 officers responded to reports of a person sleeping under a tree in front of Albany High School. Officers found a Berkeley man who was intoxicated and he was arrested, to be released when sober.

• At about 6:40 p.m. on Dec. 7 Albany officers stopped a Richmond man for a vehicle code violation and found he had an outstanding "no bail" warrant for repeated petty theft from Santa Clara. He was arrested.

• On the morning of Dec. 7, a resident on the 1000 block of Peralta Avenue reported that during the night thieves had stolen her briefcase and a case of soda from her car which was parked in the driveway of her home. There were no witnesses.

• At about 11 p.m. on Dec. 3, a resident on the 600 block of San Pablo Avenue reported that a man was knocking on her door and appeared to be drunk. Officers contacted the man, who was indeed drunk, and arrested him. He was

• On the morning of Dec. 8 a business owner on the 1100 block of Solano Avenue reported that the inside of his building had been

ransacked. There were no witnesses.

• On the afternoon of Dec. 8 a Berkeley resident reported his wallet had been stolen when he was visiting in Albany. The no witnesses and no further information.

• On the evening of Dec. 8 a resident on the 1000 block of Solano Avenue reported that his car had been stolen from his prior night. The car had been in front of his house. There were no witnesses.

• During the week of Dec. 11 Albany officers fingerprinted people at their request, responded to 18 false alarms, attended the loss of deceased animals, responded to 11 domestic disputes, seven people were removed from their house or car and responded to three reports of battery. Albany firefighter/paramedics responded to 18 medical emergencies and one reported fire.

Man with gun and knife knocks down woman

By Dawn Frasier

Carlson and San Pablo (2:04 a.m., Dec. 1), and a Richmond man at Potrero and South 55th Street (2:19 a.m., Dec. 1).

• An El Sobrante man was arrested for possession of a controlled substance on Barrett, east of Tulare, at 2:38 a.m. Nov. 28. A Richmond man was arrested for possession of heroin after a stop at Safeway 9:30 p.m. Nov. 25.

• Blockbuster Video was robbed between 9:22 p.m. and 9:34 p.m. Nov. 26. The thief demanded and received cash.

• Wells Fargo Bank was robbed by a man simulating a gun Oct. 29 at 3:44 p.m. The man demanded and received cash. He is described as a white male in his 30s with brown hair, 6' to 6'3", 180 pounds, wearing a red plaid shirt and blue jeans.

• An El Cerrito man was arrested for possession of a deadly weapon at Alva and Tassajara Avenues. He was arrested at 3:39 a.m. Nov. 30 and had a heavy, solid metal baton in his possession.

• A Richmond man and a Pinole man were arrested at Carlson and San Pablo for assault with a deadly weapon at 2:30 a.m. Nov. 20 and shooting at their victim with a BB gun.

• A Richmond man was arrested for resisting arrest and hitting the officer at Del Norte Plaza Dec. 1 at 6:35 p.m.

• A Pinole man was arrested for driving under the influence at Blake and San Pablo Avenue (9:50 p.m., Nov. 25). Also arrested were: a Richmond man at Macdonald and San Pablo Avenue (2:30 a.m., Nov. 25), a Richmond man at Central and Yosemite (3:30 a.m., no day given), a Richmond man at San Pablo and Cypress (1:40 a.m., Nov. 30), a San Pablo man at Schmidt and Kearny (12:15 p.m., Dec. 1); he was also charged with possession of methamphetamine), a Berkeley man at

• An attempt was made to burglarize a truck parked in the 500 block of Lexington between Nov. 27 and 28.

• A wallet was stolen from a car when its owner was shopping at Pablo Avenue business (12:15 p.m., Nov. 27). The wallet was taken on the evening of Dec. 1. A man was arrested for possession of a cell phone in the 1000 block of Pablo Avenue during the night of Dec. 1.

• During the week of Dec. 11 Albany officers fingerprinted people at their request, responded to 18 false alarms, attended the loss of deceased animals, responded to 11 domestic disputes, seven people were removed from their house or car and responded to three reports of battery. Albany firefighter/paramedics responded to 18 medical emergencies and one reported fire.

• Someone threw a rock through a window at Stereo Hi-Fi on the night of Dec. 3. The front door was shattered at El Cerrito Shell during the morning hours of Dec. 4.

• A male juvenile was arrested for smashing water meter covers in the afternoon of Nov. 16 in the 2000 block of Key Boulevard.

• Someone shot BBs at a residence and shed in the 1700 block of Ganges Avenue in the 1100 block of Ganges and Dec. 1. In the 1100 block of King Drive, a kitchen window was broken on the morning of Dec. 1. A residential window was shattered in the 2300 block of Tulare on the evening of Dec. 2.

• Someone smashed windows in the 1200 block of Ganges Street on the morning of Nov. 25. Two tires were flattened in the 2000 block of Cypress Avenue in the afternoon of Dec. 2. Two tires were punctured in the same block on the morning of Nov. 25.

• Shoplifting arrests were made at Payless (an Oakland man) and Safeway (a San Rafael man). A Richmond male juvenile, a San Francisco man, an El Cerrito male juvenile and a Richmond male juvenile.

• There were five calls of incidents of domestic violence in the last 24 hours.

• A watch and ring were found in the lost and found.

Letters to the Editor

Remember the children

Editor:

Today I attended Alameda County's Memorial Grove Dedication for 75 children killed by violence. This moving ceremony was held on Fairmont Ridge overlooking the Bay. The mane of each child was on his own prayer flag, fluttering in the breeze. Each child had a cast live oak tree with a bronze plaque with his name and age. The children ranged in age from newborn to 17 years. The East Bay Regional Park District provided the site and permanent maintenance. The County did the rest. One year ago for the Mothers of Murdered Children in Richmond I tried to get our own county to do the same thing. It would have to be done by our own Supervisor Jimmy Rogers, but he said he was not interested. Please help me to get him interested because it is very important for the families of these children to have a memorial.

And it is very important for the public to realize how many children we have lost.

The park district will be happy to help in Contra Costa County.

Jean Siri

Director, Ward 1

EBRPD

Sound structures

Editor:

At the Oct. 28, 1996 meeting, the El Cerrito Redevelopment Agency expressed concerns regarding the age and condition of the existing buildings at the El Cerrito Plaza. These buildings, including the one housing my business, Betty's Hallmark, are structurally sound. They are built of steel frame construction and are very solid. Demolishing them is not necessary; all they require is cosmetic renovation. The city and the taxpayers could save a lot of money by reusing these buildings.

At previous meetings, the El Cerrito Redevelopment Agency has cited the Broadway Plaza in Walnut Creek as a model for El Cerrito Plaza Redevelopment. That project is an excellent model and makes my point perfectly. The Broadway Plaza has recycled the existing wood framed buildings and given them a face lift. Those wood buildings are less structurally sound than the steel framed buildings at the Plaza and they were reused. The Broadway Plaza is a good example of successful redevelopment and sensible reuse.

To demolish and completely rebuild the Plaza is not necessary. There is much that is good here. Let's use what is good and make it better.

Kent Smith

Betty's Hallmark

About fire services

The Journal received a copy of the following combined statement by opposition to Measure H:

The vote on Measures G and H reflects that a broad base of citizens are willing to support measures to improve services in El Cerrito as long as they are fair and clearly defined. However, the overwhelming defeat of Measure H indicates that it did not live up to these standards. It in no way diminishes the importance of supporting fire services.

The vote defeating Measure H, which was spearheaded by several different citizen and business groups, sends a clear message to the City Council that they should work more honestly and fairly with citizen task forces and business groups, and that this process, once engaged, should not be disregarded. "It should be recognized that citizen involvement in community forums is a reciprocal process. Citizens generously give their time and energy to address problems and help resolve issues, and the council is obliged to incorporate citizen recommendations into their planning," stated Anne Delehunt, a member of the El Cerrito Neighborhoods Coalition.

"With Measure H the City Council failed to do this. Not only did the council ignore the Citizen Task Force recommendations, but the intended

The Journal

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Albany Chamber of Commerce

By Fern Luoma

Vegetarian restaurant's menu holds some interesting surprises

Ambrosia Garden, a truly meatless restaurant, was opened for business at 843 San Pablo Ave. in September of last year by co-owners and husband-and-wife Ying Chi and Su Luan Chung, a couple with years of restaurant experience. The couple previously owned a San Francisco Chinatown restaurant for 10 years.

Su Luan became a vegetarian in 1986 and returned to Taiwan to research vegetarian food preparation dishes so as to expand her repertoire in this style of cooking.

One might be confused when studying the menu, as it includes items, prawns, chicken, pork, goose, beef and other fish, and hundred-layer bean curd vegetarian pork rolls. These items may look at taste as one would expect; there is not a meat or fish ingredient included in the preparation. The restaurant specializes in healthy, low oil, low salt, and never uses MSG. According to Su Luan and her daughter, Helen, this awareness style of vegetarian cooking will tantalize one's taste buds and those taste defies your concept of "healthy" and "vegetarian."

Being a vegetarian herself, Su Luan is an advocate of health, the preservation of animals and good-tasting food. As a result, she has spent years in the United States and Su Luan researching and developing

new ways of preparing delicious but healthy vegetarian dishes. Using fresh vegetables daily, most all items are prepared by Su Luan. The diverse menu features a wide variety of appetizers, soups as well as vegetarian chicken, seafood, rice and noodle entrees.

Some customers eat at the restaurant six to seven times a week while there are others who dine there three or four times a week, knowing they are eating healthy.

Also, one cannot overlook Su Luan's beaming personality, as she not only is truly happy to greet customers but considers them as family members, showing a true "from-the-heart" concern. Customers seem to be as interested in Su Luan as she is in them.

In the near future one can look forward to chef Su Luan initiating special dishes periodically that are of yet not listed on the menu or are not yet to be created.

While in Taiwan, Su Luan, her mother and sisters would often prepare banquets for 300 people or more at one gathering.

Banquets, private parties and off-site catering are available. Reservations are accepted but not needed except for large parties. Su Luan is pleased to announce that all entrees are priced under \$10.

Ying Chi and Su Luan have three grown children. Helen is a software engineer, Albert is a chemical engineer and James, a senior at Cal Berkeley, is studying to become an electrical engineer.

For reservations or information phone 528-5388. New winter hours are 11:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Toys For Tots Drive

A reminder: The Toys For Tots Christmas program collection continues until Friday, Dec. 20 with collection barrels scattered throughout Albany, according to Albany Police Officer David Belman who heads this year's project. This is Belman's eighth year of working for Toys For Tots, not only as a concerned citizen but as a US Marine Corps Reserve Sergeant.

Unwrapped new toys are accepted for children of all ages. Batteries for toys should be taped securely to any toys needing them. Toys collected in Albany will be given to Albany children first. Extras will be given to those in need outside the city.

Assisting Belman is city employee Jenifer Adams, who can be reached by phoning 525-1360.

Collection sites are the Albany Chamber of Commerce, 1108 Solano; Ron Hunt State Farm, 1110 Solano; Joe Sio Chevrolet Geo, 916 San Pablo; Beverage Y More, 836

San Pablo; Nippon Motors, 730 San Pablo; Sumitomo Bank, 1451 Solano; Citybank, 1377 Solano; Sonoma Bagel Company, 1499 Solano; Bank of America, 1516 Solano; The Mechanics Bank, 801 San Pablo; Albany Ford/Subaru, 718 San Pablo; Mary & Joe's Sporting Goods, 911 San Pablo and Dave's Dugout, 1226 Solano.

Santa Visits Albany Dec. 14

Bring the youngers and your cameras to have their picture taken with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 14, 11:00 a.m. to noon, at the Albany Chamber of Commerce office, 1108 Solano Avenue. Santa will then visit Albany stores handing out wrapped candy canes and spreading good cheer.

Albany Christmas '96

Shoppers should look for the "Albany Christmas '96" window posters in the Albany area where coupons are available to be filled in for a drawing of prizes Dec. 20. First prize is \$100 given by the Chamber of Commerce followed by many other prizes donated by merchants. Purchases are not necessary. Donors include E.H. Associates, Daniel's Fine Food and All That Jazz, Magic Garlic Restaurant, Mary & Joe's Sporting Goods, Cafe del Sol, Quorum — Walter and Bev Wallace, Ellis-Olson Mortuary, Jodie's Patti Melt Restaurant, Cat's Meow and Dog's Best Friend, The Brass Horse, Grant's Watch & Clock Jewelry Company, Century Communications, Tax and Bookkeeping Services, Scandia Imports, Dave's Dugout, Flowerland, Albany Bowl, Semifreddi's, Albany Auto Sound and Paradise Chiropractic. Winners will be notified by mail or phone.



Su Luan and Ying Chi Chung of Ambrosia Garden

rant, Cat's Meow and Dog's Best Friend, The Brass Horse, Grant's Watch & Clock Jewelry Company, Century Communications, Tax and Bookkeeping Services, Scandia Imports, Dave's Dugout, Flowerland, Albany Bowl, Semifreddi's, Albany Auto Sound and Paradise Chiropractic. Winners will be notified by mail or phone.

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A 20 to 30 percent discount is offered by Walter and Bev Wallace, Quorum distributors for this holiday shopping season. Their products offer home, personal, vehicle

maintenance security and health and like sciences. The Wallaces may be reached by phoning 223-1224.

Denham begins 30th year

Dec. 1 was the beginning of Albany Chamber of Commerce's long time secretary/manager Hal Denham's 30th year with the organization. At the age of 65, Denham planned to work for five years and retire. Projects and many friends kept him on the job year after year.

He will also celebrate his 92nd birthday Jan. 5. The community has given him many birthday parties and now he waits for his 100th.

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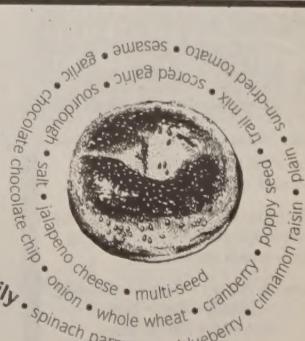
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City of El Cerrito, 7007 Moeser Lane

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REI, 1338 San Pablo Ave. 527-4140.

Israeli folk dancing 8 to midnight, Wednesdays at El Cerrito Veteran Building, 6401 Stockton, El Cerrito, 231-0959.

Judah Magnes Museum's nationwide Anna Davidson Rosenberg Award for Poems on Jewish Experience will hold a gala annual Award Ceremony and Reading on Dec. 15, from 2-4 p.m. at 2903 Russell St. (next door to the museum).

La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave. 849-2215. Dec. 14: Amiguitos de La Peña presents "Latkes and Dreidels" with Canadian singer Fran Avni. A morning of sing-a-longs for Chanukah. 10:30 a.m., \$3 adults, \$2 children. Dec. 15: Natica Angilly's "Poetic Dance Theater Company and Dances w/ Words," from 3-5 p.m. \$2. Dec. 18: Poetry workshop hosted by Nina Serrano and Diane Wang at 7 p.m. \$2. Dec. 19: Slide Show and discussion on persecution in Western Civilization, at 7:30 p.m. \$5-10.

Mick Berry will perform his new one-man show, *Dad Fought Hitler, The Bottle, and Me*. Dec. 14 and 21 at Cafe De La Paz, 1600 Shattuck Ave. \$5.

Northern California Volleyball Association offers volleyball tournaments for participants age 10 and older, and is currently accepting individual and team registration for the regional league, which will begin Dec. 14-15. 415-550-7582.

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Dec. 14: Snowshoes, at 2 p.m. Dec. 19: Exploring Wild Places: An Evening with Outdoor Writer Paul McHugh, at 7 p.m.

Three Choirs will perform in Berkeley's Bart Plaza at Center and Shattuck from noon to 4 p.m. every Saturday until Christmas.

Tibetan Day Celebration will be held Dec. 14 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at First Congregational Church on Channing at Dana in Berkeley. \$5. 548-1271.

Performances

Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 525-5054. Dec. 12: Sunfur at 9 p.m. Thoth at 10. \$6. Dec. 13: Pele Juju at 9:30 p.m. \$9. Dec. 14: Kotoja at 9:30 p.m. \$6. Dec. 15: Ellis Island plus Yiddish dance instruction from 4-6 p.m.

\$6. Flamenco Open Stage at 8 p.m. \$6. Dec. 17: Balkan dance lesson at 8 p.m. Lyuba at 9:30. \$6. Dec. 18: Cajun dance lesson at 8 p.m. Zydeco Magic at 9 p.m. \$5. Dec. 19: Haunted Waters at 9 p.m.

Benefit Concert for the Leukemia Society's Team In Training. U.C. Alumni Chorus, Jeani Duncan, Rey Booker and others to perform. Dec. 17, 7-9 p.m. at the U.C. Berkeley Alumni House at Bancroft and Dana. \$10 adults, \$5 ages 12 and under.

Berkeley Public Library, North

Branch, 1170 the Alameda. Playreaders perform *A Christmas Carol* at 7 p.m. on Dec. 12 and at 3 p.m. on Dec. 13. The Playreaders will also perform two skits based on short stories by Bashevis Singer. 644-6850. Children's Fairyland Puppeteer, Mahlmann puts on *Rumpelstiltskin* may look at the puppets after 7 p.m.

Blackie's, 2367 Telegraph at 8:086. Every Monday night, day Jam. \$3. Tuesday: The Big Quartet. \$3. Wednesday: Groovin'. Thursday: Konnection with Jalopy and the 1000. \$3. Dec. 13: Mo's Celtic release party. \$7. Dec. 14: Late.

Early Music Society of America, Magnificat in "Cavalli's Christmas," on Dec. 14 at 8 p.m. at First Congregational Church, Berkeley. \$15. Lecture for ticket-holders.

Jupiter, 2181 Shattuck at 8 p.m. TAPS. Dec. 13: Matt Cowan, p.m. Ravi Abcarian Trio at 9 p.m. 14: Clyde the Slyde Trio at 9 p.m.

Journey to the West will be formed at Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St. Tuesdays through Thursdays through Jan. 19 at 8 p.m.

See GOINGS ON

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AGS</p

West County School Watch

By Glen Price

ence Forum this weekend the Alliance for Public Education, a newly formed effort to educate and advocate for schools in the West Contra Costa Unified School District, will hold its first public forum this weekend.

The event will be held at Andrew Wilson Elementary School, 629 42nd St. in Alameda on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 1 to 3 p.m. with a reception from 3 to 4 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

The forum is the first in a series of events in which the Alliance has outlined topics identified by parents, educators, and community members as being of great importance for our school district. This first forum will focus on the topic, "Creating Safe Environments for Teaching and Learning."

A second forum will be held on Saturday, March 1 at the same location and will address the issue of "A Middle School for

"Richmond?" Improved safety on school campuses and the lack of a middle school serving Richmond have frequently been identified as two of our district's most pressing problems.

The purpose of the forums is to bring community members together to begin a dialogue around these issues. The topics will be addressed by a panel composed of teachers, parents, and community members. Maria Teresa Viramontes of the East Bay Public Safety Corridor will also join the panel on Dec. 14. Audience members will have the opportunity to ask questions and participate in the dialogue in town hall meeting format.

The Alliance wants to grow and is seeking the participation of all community organizations and friends of public education in West County. For more information on the Alliance for Public Education call Mark Friedman at 236-6560; fax the alliance at 528-0445 or email at all4ed@aol.com.

Spirits high at Adams

This year the spirit on the Adam's campus has been very high and students have just completed the first of their "Activity Days."

On these days, students have a minimum day schedule and the remainder of the day get a chance to participate in a variety of activities: holiday crafts, cookie making, poetry reading, computer explorations, table games, dance, cheerleading, archery, girl's self defense, ultimate frisbee, flag football, basketball, table tennis and many others. It was a chance for students and teachers to share their interests and hobbies while getting to know each other in a different way.

More activity days are in the planning stages for later this year.

Congratulations to the two Adams Math Club teams which took first and second places at the Mathletes competition against Juan Crespi and Helms middle schools on Nov. 20th. The Math Club also sponsored the American

Junior High School Mathematics examination on Nov. 21st. Adams students took this nationwide test — results will come back in January.

Boundary procedures

Last spring, the WCCUSD school board adopted new school attendance boundaries for scheduled implementation in the fall of '97.

The boundaries map out the elementary, middle, and high schools of residence for each area of the district.

Last week, on Dec. 4, the school board adopted several policies aimed at clarifying the implementation of the new boundaries, especially as they relate to students currently attending schools outside of their school of residence.

At the elementary level, students in grades 4 and 5 and their siblings may remain at their current school; primary students (grades 1-3) will attend their new school of residence. The transfer policy and procedure stays the same.



Albany High singers honored

The Albany High School Music Department is proud to announce that four of its students recently performed in the California Coastal Division Regional Honors Choir on Nov. 24. The students were selected after auditions in October.

The Albany High School students selected were Laura Schweitzer (a junior), Amy Chen (a freshman), Xiaomang Ba (a junior) and Eric Fitzsimons (a senior). The four students participated in a three-day workshop and rehearsal prior

to the performance in Walnut Creek. Laura and Amy sang in the Women's Choir, while Xiaomang and Eric sang in the Mixed Choir. Both groups performed difficult choral pieces, such as Farewell Overture by Jean Belmont and Duo Seraphim by Tomas Luis de Victoria. At the workshop the students were able to audition to participate in the All-State Honors Choir, which will be held in Pasadena next April.

Three of the students, Laura, Xiaomang and Eric, auditioned and will be notified before their Christmas vacation.

Big ideas... for intimate affairs!
Tracy Stott
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Ladbroke
Racing

Residents of Albany:

We wanted to take this opportunity to bring you up to date on our efforts to implement the vote of the people in approving Measure F in the fall of 1994. As you know, Measure F approved a number of benefits for Albany. Among them were:

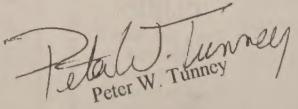
- Approval of a card club within the grandstand building which would generate an estimated \$2 1/2-3 million in additional tax revenues for Albany.
- Release Ladbroke's interest in the plateau north of Buchanan Street in order to allow acquisition by the Park District.
- Provide for the creation of environmental wetlands.

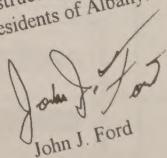
As you know, progress on the card club contemplated by Measure F has been largely prevented due to a lawsuit brought by Citizens for Responsible Government, which consists of some Albany residents who have fought to overturn the vote of the people in November, 1994. Albany and Ladbroke have vigorously defended the lawsuit brought by CRG. Every one of CRG's complaints were soundly rejected by the trial court in Alameda County. CRG appealed the trial court's decision to the Court of Appeals. We have tried to expedite the process so as to bring the card club and the other benefits to reality as soon as possible, but CRG has tried to delay the process. Most recently, the City and Ladbroke tried to expedite the hearing in the Court of Appeals. The request for a quick hearing was objected to by CRG and ultimately denied by the Court. We expect that the lawsuit will be favorably resolved in 1997, and that we will be able to move forward with the necessary review of the project by the City of Albany in which you obviously will be invited to participate.

We have, even despite the lawsuit, proceeded with preparations for the card club. Traffic consultants were engaged to conduct traffic studies of all relevant intersections and to provide us with recommendations as to the best way to provide access to Golden Gate Fields. A Project Manager was retained by the City of Albany, the cost of whom has been paid by us, who has been coordinating the City's review of the card club. We have also, of course, paid not only our own attorney's fees in defending the lawsuit, but also the attorney's fees incurred by the City of Albany.

Given the delays that have occurred in the litigation, the City and Ladbroke are now considering an administrative implementation memorandum to preserve the benefits which were contemplated with the approval of Measure F. It would preserve the project despite the delays caused by the lawsuit. The City review process would begin upon completion of the club within the grandstand building which will provide significant benefits to the residents of Albany.

Sincerely,


Peter W. Tunney


John J. Ford

Obituary

Oakland resident Ernest Chang, a writer, poet and keen observer of the East Bay political scene, was killed Dec. 6 when his car crashed into a tree in the 13365 block of Skyline Boulevard at around 6:20 p.m. Chang worked as a typesetter for Berkeley Voice and The Journal.

Chang, 45, was a native of Boston who had a passion for the written word. He was an inveterate writer of letters to the editor and articles for local publications, including newsletters put out by Towne House Creative Living Center on Oakland Avenue and by his

Mountain Valley condominium association.

The topics that most concerned him were the Oak Knoll base conversion and the Raiders and Al Davis. Chang worked with Citizens for Accountable Government, the group that campaigned against Oakland's strong mayor measure.

"He was very involved," said Mountain Valley neighbor, Fern Pike. "He was just a sweet, gentle man ... and admired by his neighbors."

Chang used his writing, typing and copy editing skills to help Towne House members put out a

Ernest Chang, 45, dies in auto accident

quarterly newsletter as well as an annual review of poetry and literature to which he contributed.

"He was a really important part of our community, a real inspiration," said Milly Alvarez, director, Bay Area Community Services/Towne House. "He used his skills and ... made his way in the world. He was a very important friend to the people here."

Chang continued to do fundraising for Towne House even after he left the program.

His newspaper colleagues constantly relied on his meticulous copy editing skills and looked forward to his frequent letters to the editor, always eloquent and well-stated.

He will be missed by his colleagues at Hills Newspapers, where he started work as a typesetter for

The Piedmonter in 1990.

Chang is survived by an uncle in Southern California and a sister in San Jose. His mother, Susan, died four years ago.

Services are pending.

Ernest Chang was active in numerous activities at the Towne House Creative Living Center in Oakland.



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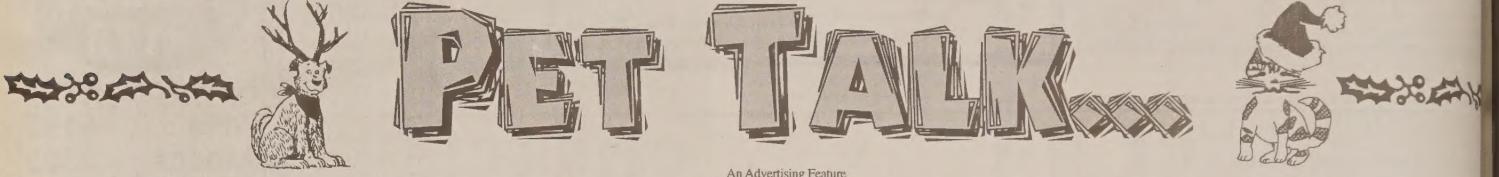


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An Advertising Feature

Dalmatians: they're adorable... but consider carefully before ownin

By Oakland SPCA

The Oakland SPCA has 101 reasons and then some to be worried this holiday season. The recent release of the Disney movie "101 Dalmatians," and the marketing blitz surrounding the live-action version of the classic children's story will undoubtedly raise the popularity of the breed, especially amongst younger children. It may even be the first item on Santa's list this year.

With more children hounding their parents for a freckled friend of their own, the OSPCA would like to take this opportunity to remind potential puppy purchasers that there are a few issues to consider before bringing home a "Spot" of their own.

Dalmatians Have a
Downside

"Ironically, Dalmatian puppies can be an especially poor choice for families and young children," explains Gary Templin, OSPCA President. "Our fear is that the movie may encourage people to impulsively decide to bring home a Dalmatian puppy, only later realizing that it was the wrong choice for their family lifestyle."

While Dalmatians are beautiful

dogs, and indeed very loyal to their owners, it is important to keep in mind their history. In earlier times, Dalmatians were bred to run with coaches and horses which, to this day, keeps them an exuberant, vibrant and unbelievably energetic animal that requires a lot of exercise. Without it, they can become bored and destructive. This can translate into ruined leather shoes, destroyed furniture, and obedience problems.

This excess energy can also cause problems for smaller children. It can be quite intimidating for a small child to be knocked over for the umpteenth time by a boisterous and growing young dog — or slapped repeatedly by a very strong and enthusiastic wagging tail.

Even for households without children, Dalmatians can prove to be challenging pets. They grow to be as large as 70 pounds and really need a home with a good-sized, fenced yard. They should not be kept outside all the time, however, as they require plenty of human contact and attention. People with allergies or meticulous housekeeping habits should be aware that Dalmatians shed year-round. Under a microscope,

the fur can be seen to have tiny 'barbs' that make it cling to clothes, furniture and carpets.

And if that weren't enough, in addition to needing lots of attention, exercise, training and supervision, Dalmatians have a few genetic tendencies that can cause problems. As many as one in ten may be born deaf. Disreputable breeders may still try to sell them, causing distress and frustration for the new parents as well as the dog. Insist that the dog have a hearing test before you purchase.

Occasionally, the dogs also suffer from urinary stones that can be life-threatening. Treatment and veterinary supervision is both costly and complicated.

The OSPCA wants to help ensure that the increased popularity of Dalmatians does not result in breeding more unwanted pets. If your child has gone dotty over the lovable Dalmatian, but you are not sure your family is ready for the responsibility and workload a new pet can bring, there's another alternative — actually even more than 101 of them: spotted toys, clothes, mugs, watches, posters, stuffed animals — indulge in the merchandise!

Determined to Get a
Dalmatian?

If you've carefully considered the responsibilities and long-term commitment that come with adopting any dog, the OSPCA would like to make a few suggestions:

1) Consider adopting an older Dalmatian from the OSPCA or other rescue organizations. Older dogs are easier to handle than puppies, may have some training and you can more easily evaluate their temperament and final size.

2) Put your name on the OSPCA Wish List for a Dalmatian or other pet that you are specifically looking for. When a pet matching your wishes becomes available, you will be notified and given the opportunity to consider adoption.

3) Visit the OSPCA and consider





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Stellar saxophonist returns to support music program

Justin Balch, Darrell Green, Nicholas Ruth, Dayna Stephens, Aaron Wright and David Michel-Ruddy make up the YMP Jazz Combo which will open the program when the Young Musicians Program presents an evening of jazz with saxophonist Craig Handy & Friends.

What is so interesting about the above-listed members of the Jazz Combo is the fact that all of them, high school students and students in the Young Musicians Programs, have received at least one, and sometimes multiple prestigious awards for both scholarship and achievement in music.

All the students taken into the

YMP are from low-income families, and so, were it not for the Young Musicians Program, wouldn't have a chance in the world to get the training and background to fulfill their amazing talents in the musician world.

Unfortunately, I was unable to meet with these young people to learn to know them, themselves, but the information given me and the list of their accomplishments was so impressive I had to tell you about them.

And Craig Handy, a saxophonist with a "big burly tenor sound, sharp wit and individuality" is an Oakland native who "has gone far in the

world of professional jazz artists since his Berkeley High School Jazz Program days more than a decade ago."

This amazingly talented group of musicians are presenting "An Evening of Jazz with Saxophonist Craig Handy & Friends" as part of the Alumni/Celebrity Benefit Concert Series on Tuesday, Dec. 17, 8-10 p.m. at Yoshi's Jazz House, 6030 Claremont Ave. in Oakland. General admission is \$25, with VIP reserved seating and champagne reception with the artists at \$50. Advance tickets may be bought at Yoshi's box office 652-9200 or 762-BASS.

Need more information? Call 642-9394.

Anna Rose Stebbins must have something to keep her

hands busy at all times. As a result, many of the young people who reside in Youth Homes in Contra Costa County have very special items which are made for them by Anna Rose and other members of the Mimosa Chapter of the Youth Homes, Inc. auxiliary.

This year the women of Mimosa have given handmade Christmas stockings to all of the children who are living in Youth Homes houses. Most of the children put into Youth Homes are pre-delinquent youngsters, usually those who have been neglected or abused, or have run away from home more than once and must be removed from their own homes until counseling and treatment make it possible to reunite the family. Of late, Stebbins tells us, children with more pre-delinquent behavior

have been installed in the homes, and present a greater challenge to the organization.

Many years ago, when my husband was Juvenile Court Judge in Contra Costa County, he told me about the establishment of the organization, and asked me to start a chapter in West County, noting that this was a much needed and important addition to the juvenile care family in Contra Costa County. I held a meeting of people I knew would be interested in this cause, and the response was overwhelming. The people who came to the meeting made Mimosa Chapter a vital and important part of the Youth Homes group.

Most of the women who took part in Mimosa loved handicrafts, and did beautiful work. For years they held a Christmas Boutique where such handicrafts were sold to benefit Youth Homes. With fewer members today, they continue their fine work, selling it in the Youth Homes store in central county, and at other chapters sales. They also, as noted, make things for the youngsters living in the homes.

Anna Rose Stebbins made more than 12 of the very special Christmas stockings given to the residents of the homes this year. She also does many other things just for herself and her family. For instance, she has "painted" pictures of all of her children (usually as children, though they are now grown) and is now

doing her grandchildren, in petit point. An amazing display of talent and love.

But the thing that impressed me most was her doll house. This is her third doll house. Number one was given away and number two was given to her daughter Mary, who lives in Canada. Number three is still in the works. And amazing works they are. Stebbins took me into their hobby room, where husband Bob has his easel and his music, and Anna Rose has her doll house and the things that go into building and furnishing it. Bob paints, and the painting now on his easel was a special commission, and was beautiful. He also plays the violin.

And Anna Rose works on her doll house. It started, she says, when her son, who had a toy and hobby shop, showed her a kit. "Oh, this would be fun," she said, so Bob gave her the kit for her first doll house. The next one, a Georgian style home, took her 11 years to finish. It was much larger than her first effort, having 18 rooms.

The present house is larger still. It is a California adobe, based on a Petaluma adobe and a Monterey adobe. Anna Rose builds the house herself, and it is exciting just looking at it, and its authentic lines and decorations. Even the plants lining the second story veranda she made herself, though her daughter gave her the tiny pots for them. There are even cliff swallows nesting under the roof — again her work.

When I arrived she was working on a sofa, which, again, she made herself, as she does everything that goes into the house. The sofa, copied from one in a Monterey adobe, has a carved pattern on the back and is still in the process of being upholstered, all of which she has and is doing herself.

She has only been working on this house for two years, so only one and a half rooms are furnished yet (she had to build it first, and do the research into adobes and their furnishings). The kitchen is finished and is awe inspiring. A side of beef hangs from the ceiling, and 'freshly baked' bread hangs in baskets. The stove, the shelves and everything on them are authentic to the period and the work of her hands.

Space does not allow for more detail, but it was a joy entering with her into the world of the doll house.

Anna Rose and Bob have three children. John, his wife and two children live in Oregon; Melinda and three children in Australia and Mary, with one, in Canada. Anna Rose, Bay Area born and educated, says she has had a beautiful life, and is still enjoying it to the fullest. Wonderful.

It was Ivy Robinson, of Mimosa, who suggested Anna Rose to me, and I thank her. And I invite all of you to give me your input: interesting people, events, organizations, etc. Please write to me at 555 Pierce St., #443, Albany, 94706 or call 525-4585. My e-mail is CRGENSER@aol.com.

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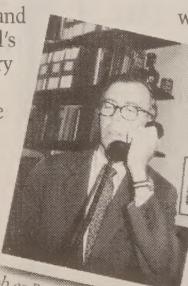
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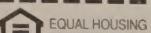
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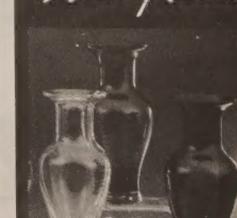


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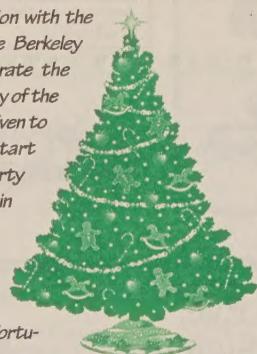


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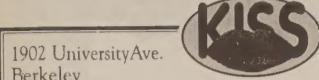
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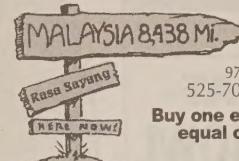
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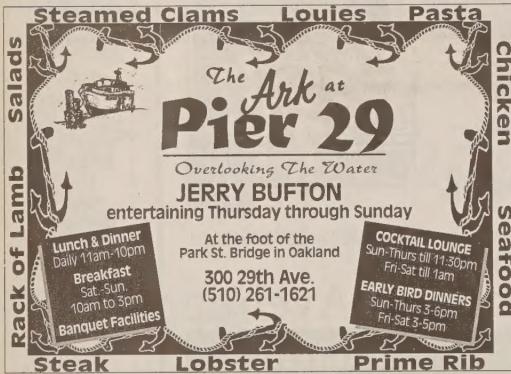
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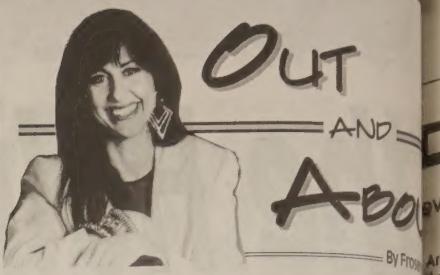
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East Bay Events

Living in the season

Geoff Hoyle stars in *The Bay Area Christmas Revels* tonight through Sunday at the Scottish Rite Theater, 1547 Lakeside Drive, Oakland. Call 893-YULE, or e-mail at sfbayrevels@earthlink.net. Prices are \$12, \$22, and \$25 for adults; \$12 for seniors and children under 12.



Sharing through art

The seventh annual Women Artists Holiday Art Show and Sale is underway through Dec. 15 at 2517 Sacramento St., Berkeley. Each participating artist has donated one work to benefit Berkeley Cares and the Women's Daytime Drop-in Center. The show's theme is "Love, Peace & Art," and it features works in sales, painting, jewelry, ceramics and other media. A large selection of Christmas ornaments is for sale.

Sculptor speaks on her work

The Arts Section of the Berkeley City Club concludes its call series today, Dec. 16, when Cherie Raciti will discuss her work. Raciti's sculpture has followed a rigorous investigation of geometry, color and the human form. Recent works make use of mixed media in their current iterations.

As a professor of art at San Francisco State University, Cherie Raciti has a broad influence on the conceptual education of art students in the Bay Area.

The presentation will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the City Club, 2315 Duran

For further information, call 848-7800 or 526-0926.

Night for Dickens

Berkeley Public Library's Teen Playreaders present *A Christmas Carol*, based on the classic story by Charles Dickens, at the North Branch Library, 1170 The Alameda, tonight at 7 p.m., with a repeat performance Saturday, Dec. 14, at 3 p.m.

The Playreaders will also present two short stories by Isaac Bashevis

Singer, *A Hanukkah Evening in My Parents' House*, and *A Parakeet and a Dreidel*.

Albany center shows quilts

The Albany Arts Committee announces the opening of an exhibit at the Albany Community Center Foyer Gallery featuring quilts created by Bay Area resident Nancy Pagani. The show will run through March 9. The artist's reception will take place on Sunday, Dec. 15 from 4 to 6 p.m. Pagani has concentrated on quiltmaking as an art form for the past two years. From 1992-1995 she had a business designing and constructing coats, jackets and vests. Her multicolored creations encompass both wallhangings and wearable art, and include variations on traditional quilt designs as well as abstract designs.

Pagani's works have been on display throughout the U.S., including shows at Sawtooth Studios, the Marin Needlework and Quilt Show and Bay Heritage Quilt Shows. During 1996-1997, one of her vests will be travelling nationally with the Lucky Thread Challenge.

Pagani is a member of the East Bay Heritage Quilters Guild, as well as several smaller organizations devoted to the art of quiltmaking.



Bowls for all seasons

One-of-a-kind vases, bowls, pitchers and tumblers, as well as jewelry and sculpture will be for sale when Oakland glass artists Bruce Pizzichillo and Dari Gordon exhibit at Nexus Gallery, 2701 Eighth St., Berkeley.

size poetry reading

On its 10th Anniversary, the Judah Magnes Museum's nationwide Davidson Rosenberg Award for Poems on the Jewish Experience holds a gala annual Award Reading and Ceremony on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 2903 Russell St., Berkeley (next door to the Judah L. Magnes Museum).

Handy & Friends

The Young Musicians Program at the University of California at Berkeley continues its Alumni/Celebrity Benefit Concert Series with highly respected tenor saxophonist Craig Handy and other Bay Area favorites on Tuesday, Dec. 17, at 8 and 10 p.m., Yoshi's Jazz House, 6030 Alameda Ave., Oakland.

Critically acclaimed as a musician with a "big, burly tenor sound, sharp and individuality," Oakland native Craig Handy's career has gone far beyond the world of professional jazz artists since his Berkeley High School days more than a decade ago. Currently touring with jazz great Herbie Hancock, Handy is a rising star among the younger generation of jazz musicians. He has recorded and toured with artists such as legendary songstress Betty Carter, bebop master Roy Haynes and South African pianist Abdullah Ibrahim.

More recently, he appears in the Robert Altman film *Kansas City*, playing a character based on the late Coleman Hawkins.

Tickets are \$25; tickets for VIP reserved seating and champagne reception with the artists are \$50. For more information call 642-9394. Advance tickets at Yoshi's box office (510) 652-9200 and (510) 762-

Wacky Christmas story

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!, tonight through Sunday at Contra Costa Civic Theater, tells the story of a couple's attempt to stage the annual Christmas pageant, despite having to cast the Herdmans kids — probably the most inventively awful kids in the history of the world. And fun erupts when the Herdmans collide with the Christmas

Mark Patino and Rebecca Reschert direct the story by Barbara Robinson. Evening shows are at 7 p.m., with Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$4. For reservations call 524-9132.

Novel Nutcrackers

Breaking the mold

By Carol Egan

For those among us who have seen one too many traditional "Nutcrackers," take heart! There are alternatives heading our way.

First of the pre-holiday celebrations to burst upon the scene is Mark Morris' *The Hard Nut*, a sassy and hip version of the old E.T.A. Hoffmann chestnut. Set in a 1960s U.S. suburbia rather than the traditional 19th century bourgeois Germany, Morris, in collaboration with cartoon artist Charles Burns, brings us spicy characters, colorful sets and costumes, and delightful dancing. *The Hard Nut* will be presented at Zellerbach Hall Dec. 14-21.

Originally premiered in Brussels, Belgium in 1991, *The Hard Nut* has subsequently been performed at New York's Brooklyn Academy of Music (1992 and 1993) and the Edinburgh Festival in Scotland (1995). The Berkeley performances mark not only its west coast premiere but its first U.S. appearance outside New York. As company manager Barry Alterman puts it, "Kids really like it, but it's not saccharine sweet. *The Hard Nut* is hip in a way that everyone will understand."

The main reason for its infrequent performances, according to Alterman, is budget. The production includes a cast of 35 dancers (Morris normally tours with 16) and



Getting down: It's the frug at the holiday Christmas party in Mark Morris's 'The Hard Nut.'

a backstage running crew of 50. Live orchestra and chorus contribute to the expense and complication of production.

For the Berkeley performances

the Berkeley Symphony Orchestra and the Piedmont Children's Choir will be conducted by Cal Performances director Robert Cole, formerly an associate conductor for the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra (1973-77) and guest conductor

See NOVEL, page 12

Dear Mr. McNally

It's OK to act gay

By Don McConnell

The funniest line in or about *Love! Valour! Compassion!* appears in the Berkeley Rep's press release: "Please note: This play contains nudity and adult themes, as well as frequent references to American musicals . . .

The promises of the warning are amply fulfilled in the course of a longish, generally amusing evening.

What doesn't emerge is any reason why the Rep should produce the play.

I suspect that it's a nod to gay and gay-friendly patrons, one of the larger subgroups in any local theater audience. It may also be an acknowledgement that gay theater is a flourishing movement, particularly in the Bay Area. If so, I can't imagine that anybody is well pleased with this bit of tokenism.

The play itself seems dated, tame, cliched; and the performances are so unidiomatic that I suspect the director, Warner Shook, of trying to freshen what he realizes are stereotyped characters. "Love! Valour!" is structured like a TV sitcom—which is meant as a structural description rather than a putdown. The structure is to throw together a collection of colorful characters (in this case, eight gay men at the beach house of one of them, a famous choreographer). The characters interact in scenes that are almost self-contained, with each scene building to a specific effect, comic or poignant.

In most sitcom episodes, there are one or more overarching themes (in *Cheers*, it might be Carla's superstitions or Norm's inability to hold a job), which give coherence to the collection of gag-driven scenes. Even so rudimentary an integrating device is absent in "Love! Valour," much less the kind of plotting that would let the piece make a statement or even build to a dramatic climax.

This sounds worse than it is. The gag writing is up to the standard of the best sitcoms. The characters are engaging, and several are beautiful to look at. The single set, by Michael Olich, has a nice Deco appeal. The performances are fine. Indeed, the whole package is enjoyable, though you might well ask yourself at the second intermission why you need to see the third act.

Along the way, the standard themes are introduced: a long-term relationship threatened by infidelity, the same relationship threatened by stagnation, a May-December relationship threatened by its very nature, another relationship doomed by AIDS, etc. They're all there, but in most cases, each is dealt with—raised and disposed of—with a single scene, as if McNally were checking them off on a list. None of them really catches dra-

See LOVE!, page 12

Ongoing tradition

Berkeley City Ballet's full-length production of *The Nutcracker* will feature guest artists Sam Weber, a New York-based Bessie Award winner, and former Beijing ballerina Xiao Ping Liu-Moore, plus a cast of 80. The production, choreographed by artistic director Grace Doty after the Marius Petipa/Lev Ivanov original, celebrates its 23rd year as Berkeley's only traditional full-length version of the ballet set to Tchaikovsky's most famous score.

Performances will be given 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15, at Berkeley Community Theater, 1930 Allston Way. Sugar Plum Fairy Parties follow all matinee performances and provide audience members a chance to meet their favorite characters and enjoy refreshments.

Berkeley City Ballet's *The Nutcracker* is fully staged and costumed, with stunningly elegant sets designed by Ron Steger, costumes by Denise Rosko Brady and lighting by Patty Ann Farrell.

For tickets call 841-8921.

See TRADITION, page 12



Scene from Berkeley Ballet Theater's 'Nutcracker'

'Stormy Weather' brings sweet sounds

By Wanda Sabir

The Black Repertory Group Theatre begins its new season with musical director Frank Ramone Bowden's adaptation of *Stormy Weather*. This post-World War I romantic comedy stars George Arliss and Geri Whitmore.

The story, told in a series of flashbacks, from 1917-1944, begins with Uncle Bill surrounded on stage by a group of young admirers. The children huddle with Bill, in a corner, on stage, and listen to their

hero tell them about his adventures in the war and in show business.

Young actors Alexis Cobbins, 13; Tova Cobbins, 11; Tobias White, 11; and Evan Santos, 7, take turns tap dancing and singing their way into Bill's past,

where they meet Sean Vaughn Scott's Gabe, Paula Martin's legendary Ada Brown, as well as, chauffeurs, gigolos and "gigalas," even Fats Domino. Under the big

lights, the past is reenacted for all to see once again.

"The Soldier's Party" is the scene where Bill meets Whitmore's Selena for the first time. Whitmore gives a wonderful rendition of "Imagination is Funny." As the set is changed, Cinnamon comes out and sings "This Joint is Jumpin'" and "God Bless the Child That's Got His Own." Remember Cinnamon from last season's "Bubbling Brown Sugar?" Well Black Rep's

See STORMY, page 12

La Peña 'Unplugged'

By Carol Egan

Culture Clash, the nation's leading Chicano/Latino comedy team, returns to its roots at La Peña with "Unplugged: 13 Years of Revolutionary Comedy." The limited engagement of three performances takes place only Dec. 12, 13 and 14 at 8 p.m.

The trio began working together on the Cinco de Mayo, 1984. All three actors, Herbert Siguenza, Ric Salinas and Richard Montoya, are alumni of El Teatro Campesino, the foremost theatre group in the country devoted to presenting works by, and of Chicano/Latino artists. Called by one critic "equal opportunity offenders," Culture Clash

spares no punches when it comes to irreverent humor and satire, going so far as to even diss their own cultural heroes, including Luis Valdez, founder/director of El Teatro Campesino, and well-known film actor, Edward James Olmos.

"Unplugged" is, like most of their shows, a melange of historic skits, slapstick, stand-up comedy, rapping, poetry, burlesque, high comedy, multimedia, political improvisation and impersonations. It includes one of the group's best-known sketches, "The Return of Che Guevara." Rage mixed with satire gives their work a biting political edge.



See COMEDY, page 12

Culture Clash

Novel

Continued from page 11
 for many other orchestras prior to assuming his current role in arts administration. Donald York, Morris's regular conductor for the ballet, was already committed to a Carol Channing tour and recommended Cole as replacement.

Last call

For an even more radical departure from tradition, the Bay Area's own Dance Brigade presents its popular version, appropriately entitled *The Revolutionary Nutcracker Sweetie*, for the 10th year in a row. This will also be its final season and, therefore, our last chance to see another very alternative variation on the ever-popular Nutcracker theme.

Unlike Morris's *The Hard Nut*, which despite extreme reinterpretations of characters, nevertheless remains faithful to the original storyline and uses the beloved Tchaikovsky score, Dance Brigade presents a radical, politicized work set to music by jazz pianist Mary Watkins who has integrated American and Latin jazz rhythms into the Tchaikovsky score and added original musical motifs with various ethnic flavors. The music will be performed by the American Jazz Theater, conducted by Nas Washburn.

This brash multicultural and multi-generational production, which will be presented Dec. 20 and 21 at Oakland's Scottish Rite Theatre, is directed and choreographed by Dance Brigade's co-artistic directors Krissy Keefer and Nina Fichter. Additional choreography is being provided by Terry Sengraff and Kim Epifano. It will feature more than 50 dancers, including Shakiri in the role of the Nutcracker, depicted as an South African Freedom Fighter in this version, and a large contingent of children on stilts.

In a telephone interview Keefer explained: "What makes our Nutcracker unique is that it's about the community rather than the nuclear family. It's really about acceptance and tolerance." The characters undeniably reflect this philosophy: the McGreeds, the richest folks in town; three Claras (all servants of the McGreeds); and the beloved Sugar Plum Fairy (danced by Keefer), in this case a homeless person who has fled the city.

Dance Brigade has momentarily fled this area, too, departing for Osaka, Japan, where it was invited to present its latest creation, *Ballet of the Banshees*, on a program at the new Dawn Center (a women's center). It will share the bill with an all-female Taiko Drumming group from the U.S. (In Japan, women are still not allowed to play Taiko).

For tickets and information regarding *The Hard Nut*, contact Cal Performances at 642-9988. Tickets for *The Revolutionary Nutcracker Sweetie* may be purchased through BASS or at Modern Times Bookstore in San Francisco. Mama Bears in Oakland or La Peña/La Tienda in Berkeley.

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AUTO SALES AND SERVICES

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Out of Gas...



by Karen Senzig

eled all over Europe on his Eurail pass. When he and I went in '76 and '77 he was able to relive and share all those experiences with me and so we agreed that it would be lots more fun with Bernie along, plus we'd have an another driver!

We rented a tiny Ford Fiesta which meant I was in the back seat when I wasn't driving (which wasn't often) because both Scott and Bernie are well over 6 feet tall and could barely cram themselves into the front seats.

While we were in Stuttgart, where they make those lovely Mercedes-Benz's, visiting our military friends there, Scott told his story of traveling to Berlin in 1972 through what was then East Germany. That got us all thinking and telling stories about things we had heard about tourists behind the Iron Curtain. I had never been to a 'Communist' country before even though I have roots in Slavic Eastern Europe. My father was born in Poland and immigrated to this country when he was five years old and my mother is first generation American from Czechoslovakian parents. So it was decided. We would drive to Czechoslovakia and visit the great city of Prague and of course the pilsner beer capital of Pilsen.

After what seemed an endless barrage of red tape and paper work (and a two week wait during which time we drove through Salzburg and Innsbruck in Austria and all throughout Italy), we were finally

stamped as acceptable tourists by the Czechoslovakian Embassy. They also issued special driving permits in addition to our international driver's license and gave us a lecture regarding the do's and don'ts in Communist Czechoslovakia. There were many times while there I imagined secret police stalking our every move, at least I think I imagined it.

I believe that Czechoslovakia, now known as the Czech Republic, is the coldest place on earth in late October. A dry icy wind blew constantly. It added to the mood of the people. This was the time just after the Soviets had quelled a recent uprising and tanks draped in red flags appeared virtually at every 10 kilometers like milestones. As we made our way to Prague, the dismal weather worsened with freezing rain and wind that seemed to penetrate right through the car and into our bones. The lack of automobile traffic, other than the occasional tractor that lumbered along at 10 klicks per hour was noticeable.

Even in the great capital city of Prague, the primary means of transportation was taxi or bus (or tank). We found the tourist offices to see about a hotel and found that there was an Eastern Block conference in town and there wasn't a hotel room within 50 kilometers, if any, available. We had no idea what to do. Sleeping in the car seemed to be our only miserable option until we met a young lady just outside the tourist office asking if we needed rooms for the night. Her mother and father had an apartment and for 160 korunas we could have beds and breakfast (and heat!).

warmly inviting apartment was composed of one bedroom (with a double and single bed), a compact kitchen with a small dining area, a living room you could barely turn around in and a bath. The old couple spoke no English or German and we spoke no Czech, but surprisingly I remember having a lovely conversation. In the morning, the old lady stood in line for two hours to buy us oranges and Ersatz coffee which she served with homemade pastries and jam. When her daughter came by in the morning to make sure everything was all right we inquired where the old couple had slept. "On the floor of the living room, of course! This is how they make ends meet," she told us. We gave the daughter the 160 korunas, left another 160 k's along with 20 American dollars under the pillow in the bedroom. It was hard to believe they could be so humble and hospitable. We were meeting the hearts of the Czech people.

We decided we'd had enough of Czechoslovakia. After consulting our maps and deciding on a route that would take us the quickest way to the Austrian border (it looked like the shortest route anyway). Scott and Bernie grabbed a case of Pilsner Urquell and squeezed into the back seat. I was elected to drive. We were making pretty good time when suddenly this cab driver came up from behind, pounding his horn, flashing his lights and practically running us off the road. Once we had stopped, this 50 something man came running to my door sounding like my grandfather when he was swearing at the politicians. Fortunately, he knew some German and between

the 3 of us, we knew some German and he got the message across that the road over the pass (there were mountains ahead?) was closed this time of year because of snow. I was to follow him and he would take us to the closest border crossing. First however, he took us to show us his home and to meet his mother. Then he led us to his favorite beer hall where there had to be 60 or 70 men, looking as if they had just gotten off work (there were factories nearby where they made parts for Skoda cars) and with a great amount of fanfare as we stood before the crowd announced that we were United States Americans and that we should be welcomed!! (Or something to that effect.) A great cheer and applause rose out and beers were passed around. It seems that during the war, their village was liberated by American troops and these people never forgot that.

It was time to get back to the West and through the border. I always hated border crossings, no matter that we never were doing anything wrong, the guards always made me feel guilty. During our stay in Prague, we had purchased several trinkets-some crystal, a vase, a piece of glass art and other things. They have this 100% tourist tax that you pay as you leave the country. You were to show every receipt and match that amount with the tax. Several of our purchases were from a flea market and we had no receipts. We had plenty of korunas left and we figured we'd just settle up at the border. So, during our lengthy conversation (they spoke pretty good German but no English, so it took all three of us to translate a concept) they told us to

forget the tax, that it was unfair and drove away tourists. Instead we were to look for a man who looked just like Bernie: tall, blond and lanky with glasses. It was the taxi driver's cousin. He wrote something out on a card and we were to give it to him and forget about the money. He and a friend then helped us pack our loot in parts of the car we hadn't thought of, left a couple of items that we had receipts for and headed for the border. About two kilometers from the frontier, a small child was bouncing a ball on the side of the road. We had about 900 korunas left and if we didn't need them at the border, we certainly weren't going to have any use for them (they didn't trade the currency back in those days) so we put the remaining money in a paper sack drove up to the kid, handed him the bag and sped away. There were a few tense moments (like about 90 of them) at the border since the tall, blond lanky guard who looked like Bernie wasn't found and after we completed the transaction for the receivable items the guards decided to search the car. Just as they were getting to the nitty gritty and was wondering what jail in Czechoslovakia was like, Bernie's twin arrived and within minutes we were back in the West and heading for Regensburg, a great University town on the Eastern Border of Germany...but that's another story.

If you have a question, story or tip to share, send it care of Karen Senzig, to Hills Newspapers, 5707 Redwood Road, Oakland, CA 94619 or FAX it to (510) 339-3053 or EMAIL to KSENZIG@AOL.COM

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■ **Martin Snapp**

Waving Love: Some call him "The Waving Man."

Some call him "Charley Wavesalot."

Some call him "Mr. Goodday" (after his trademark greeting, "Have a GOOD day!").

But his real name is Joseph Charles, and for exactly 30 years — from Oct. 6, 1962, to Oct. 6, 1992 — he stood in front of his home at the corner of Oregon Street and Martin Luther King Way in Berkeley every morning and waved to the passing cars.

The first time, the neighbors assumed he was crazy and called the cops. When the police arrived, they took one look and said, "Go ahead, Mr. Charles, just keep on waving."

That sentiment has been echoed by three generations of Berkeleyans — and not just Berkeleyans, either. People from all over the East Bay would go out of their way to drive down Martin Luther King, just so they could wave to The Waving Man. People who were little kids when he first started waving grew up and drove their kids by his house so they could enjoy the experience, too. "Enjoy" is the operative word. You couldn't help breaking out in a grin when you saw The Waving Man, waving and pointing and calling out, "Keep smiling!" and "Have a GOOD day!"

A few years ago, then-Mayor Loni Hancock wanted to have a plaque put in the pavement on the spot where he always stands. But the Public Works Department vetoed the idea, saying it would cost too much money. So they compromised and named the tennis courts across the street in his honor. You can see the sign as you drive by: the Joseph W. Charles Tennis Courts.

Not that he's a big tennis buff, of course, but the idea was that at least he'd be able to see it every day when he looks out his window.

Since his retirement, his friends and admirers have been trying to figure out how we can pay him back — if only a little bit — for all the happiness he's given us over the years.

And last year, we found a way. The inspiration came from Judge Julie Conger: "Christmas Caroling for Mr. Charles." The idea was to gather in front of his house and serenade him with holiday songs.

Mayor Shirley Dean quickly signed on, and I printed an announcement in my column. But we had no idea if anyone would actually turn up.

We needn't have worried. Everywhere you looked, there were scores and scores of people. The group sang every Christmas carol they knew, but nobody felt like going home yet. So they turned to Chanukah music.

Mr. Charles beamed down from his living room window. And a funny thing happened: In trying to give something to Mr. Charles, we ended up giving something even more precious to ourselves: the true spirit of Christmas.

In fact, it was so much fun, we've decided to do it all over again this year.

Last year, a few people brought candles with them; and the effect was so stunning, we're asking everyone to bring a candle this time.

The date: this Sunday, Dec. 15, starting at 5 p.m. at the corner of Oregon and Martin Luther King. If you've ever waved to the Waving Man — or if you haven't but wish you had — please join us. It could be the best Christmas present you ever gave yourself.

Return Of The Jedi: I didn't intend to write about Mario Savio any more, but I can't remarking about the extraordinary memorial service that was held at UC Berkeley's Pauley Ballroom on Sunday.

I looked around the packed room at the middle-aged people sporting their FSM buttons, and it hit me with a shock: These were the same people who were in Sproul Hall that fateful night 32 years ago.

They were the pioneers who started it all — the student movement of the '60s.

It didn't take long for that movement to degenerate into sectarianism, egotism and violence. But for one brief moment in 1964, it was bright and shining and pure. The bad stuff that came later was done by others, who didn't share Savio's humility or his humanity.

But the people who were in Pauley Ballroom last Sunday did share it. And they still do. They were my heroes then, and they still are.

At the memorial service the current Cal student body president, Grant Harris, made the eminently sensible suggestion that Sproul Plaza — or, at least, Sproul steps — be renamed in Savio's honor.

I wonder: Could it be possible that the U.C. administration has actually learned something in the last 30 years?

Nah!

Phoebe's Phan Club: Finally, a personal note: Several readers have asked why my kitten Phoebe's picture has been missing for the last few weeks.

It was a mistake, pure and simple. As you can see, she's back where she belongs. I thank you for your concern, and she does too.

Martin Snapp's column appears every Thursday in The Journal. Phone him at 273-9039; write c/o Hills Newspapers, 5707 Redwood Rd., Oakland 94619; or e-mail snapp@BMUG.org

Floor furnaces can cause fires, says AF

By Greg Hugunin

ALBANY — A man walking his dog at the base of Albany Hill saved a duplex from burning to the ground last week when he heard a battery-operated smoke detector go off and contacted the Fire Department.

The fire was caused by a throw rug left over what the home's resident thought was a turned-off floor furnace, and resulted in between \$500 and \$1,000 in damage. According to Fire Chief Marc McGinn, floor furnaces are one of the most common cause of residential fires.

"That is at least 50 percent of the fires in Albany," he said, adding that the city's last residential fire, in September, stemmed from the same problem.

According to Lieutenant Brad Winding, the fire started when the resident of a duplex on the 900 block of Solano Avenue near Jackson Street left a throw rug over a floor furnace grate she thought was turned off. The furnace was not off, however, and the rug caught fire, filling the house with smoke.

Although flames were not visible, the blaze set off

a smoke detector, which was heard by a man walking his dog at approximately 7:30 p.m. The man called the fire department, which arrived just as the fire began to spread to nearby wood paneling.

"In another two minutes that whole living room would have been gone," said Winding, who saw flames creeping up the wall as he crawled on his belly through the smoke-filled house.

Although the fire was extinguished easily, Winding said that had it not been reported so promptly it could have claimed the whole structure. The incident is not an isolated one, McGinn said, as the city's most recent residential blaze was also caused by a floor furnace.

According to McGinn, a fire in September at a home on Albany Terrace occurred when the residents left a rug over the grate to warm it up for their pet. The fire started at 6:30 a.m., when the home's residents were asleep, and was reported by a neighbor who noticed flames lapping against the side of his house as he ate breakfast.

That home did not have smoke detectors, McGinn said. He said that if the neighbor hadn't reported the

fire, it could have been fatal.

Floor furnaces, which are common in older homes, are one of the city's leading causes of fires, McGinn said. Fireman Tim Lundgren said "a couple dozen" fires started by residential furnaces over the past 20 years with the department.

"It happens more than it should," he said. "People always forget and make mistakes and leave them on."

Lundgren said the furnaces are dangerous because objects can be knocked onto the grates inadvertently, but also because of thermometers down to 50 degrees but do not turn off, although the furnace might appear to be off.

McGinn said between 30 and 50 percent of homes have floor furnaces. He also cited a recent Avenue fire as an example of the need for smoke detectors, which the department will install for nine dollars, seven dollars for seniors. McGinn said detectors should be replaced every two years.

Garage burglaries on the increase in EC

By Dawn Frasier

EL CERRITO — The northern portion of El Cerrito has been hard hit by a series of garage burglaries in recent weeks. According to Detective Scott Erwin, there were 33 garage burglaries reported in the same general area between Sept. 1 and Nov. 20.

Streets where the burglaries occurred include the 7200 block of Donal, the 1200 block of Everett (both north of Moeser and east of Richmond Street), Fern, Blake, Potrero, Jordan, Knott and Richmond Street, all in the same general area.

"The houses are generally a little older; the majority were built in the same period, and that's when they put the locks on," he said. "Nobody's really upgraded them. It's a weak link in their security. 'Somebody has recently figured this out.'

Erwin said the burglars are generally closing the doors behind them while they decide what to take from the garage. For the most part, it's been bikes they can ride away, tools or other small items they can "stick in their pockets."

The timing of the crimes makes police surveillance difficult.

"They're hitting all hours of the day or night," said Erwin. "They're not centralized on anyone aspect."

"It's a whenever and wherever kind of problem, with no limit on the time of day it might occur," said Erwin. "We can't just sit and survey the area (with no set time)."

Utilities

Continued from front page

cerned, the street is a prime example of the unattractive nature of poles and wires.

"Look up Fairmount Avenue ... toward the BART station," he said. "It looks like a winter wonderland of utility lines."

Undergrounding such lines looks better, benefiting the general public, he said. In addition, the utility company benefits, in that far less maintenance is required than for above ground lines, and they last longer.

Raycraft expected to hear this week whether the second proposed project will qualify for use of the undergrounding funds. The elimination of overhead lines along the stretch of Peerless Avenue adjacent to the Del Norte Marketplace would benefit that project. PG&E has given a preliminary estimate to the Pacific Development Group of a \$300,000 cost (plus or minus 40 percent) for electrical work.

"That's just a 'guesstimate,' but it far exceeds what they've budgeted for the project," Raycraft said.

The new retail shopping center will sit between Church's Chicken and FoodsCo. Because Peerless Avenue, currently a public street, will eventually be vacated as part of the project, Raycraft was uncertain whether undergrounding of its electric wires will be approved by PG&E.

Council

Continued from front page

day, Dec. 16, at which the council will consider extending the development agreement allowing Ladbrooke Racing Corp. to build a 150-table, 24-hour cardroom at the Golden Gate Fields racetrack.

"It is illegal to amend this part of the development agreement without a vote of the people," Holan said, adding that such a move on the part of the council would be discretionary, thus triggering a review under the California Environmental Quality Act. She also said it could lead to another lawsuit.

Holan then accused City Attorney Robert Zweben of having a conflict of interest in the matter because of legal fees he has received from the case. Although Zweben was not present and could not answer the second charge, he previously maintained the legality of amending the agreement, which expires in February.

Traffic and Safety Commission Chair Evan Flavell also addressed the council. "Indeed, it is a long-lost pleasure to address you as Mayor Good, sir," he began. He then asked them to hold a hearing on the "premature dismissal" of citizen volunteers, saying there is currently no quorum on any city commission or committee.

Appointees for Good, Rubin, and Brodsky were told their time on city boards and commissions was up last week, a move which stems from recently-passed Measure Q. According to city officials, Measure Q mandates appointees serve terms concurrent with council members, usurping a city ordinance which allows a 45-day transition period.

Good called the hearing a "sensible suggestion."

School Board member Bill Cain also congratulated Good on his new title.

Camp

Continued from front page

camp, whose residents used the nearby Cordonces Creek as a bathroom, was infested with rats and a potential mosquito breeding ground.

The camp was also the site of four drug-related arrests on Nov. 23. According to Palmini, various sources, including one juvenile, told him youths were purchasing methamphetamine at the camp.

"My concern was for juveniles in Albany being at risk," Palmini said.

Camp residents, however, denied the charge.

"I don't know why that cop lied about that," said Rodney Madeiras, 58, as he poked through a mass of broken wooden pallets in search of "two hundred something dollars" he said was buried there.

"I've never seen a kid down there," said Richmond resident Katherine Cody, who was near the camp looking for newly-displaced friends of hers. "Big drug kings are not going to live by the railroad tracks in the mud."

Camp residents also said they were not given adequate notice to remove their belongings, which, according to Palmini and Wilson, included "hundreds" of bicycles as well as car batteries, propane tanks, a

stolen welding kit and significant amounts of cash.

"We don't have a portable message board here," said Lee. "But someone would know that."

According to Wilson, though, residents were given 48 hours notice last Monday. "Everybody has an ample opportunity," he said. "They didn't notice seriously."

He also said he too had seen juveniles during health inspection in the area, and that he might have helped accelerate the action, still a somewhat unpleasant job.

"It would be nice if there was some other way," he said. "There's not a whole lot you can do."

Camp residents survived on Social Security through panhandling, dumpster diving and cases, selling "dope," Palmini said. Homeless trolleys in the area were rare until recently, the sight of Albany's only murder in 1995.

According to police, accused serial killer "Sidetrack" Silvera stabbed and bludgeoned resident James "J.C." McLean to death over a hypodermic needle. Silvera is currently in trial in Oregon for the deaths of two women there.

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El Cerrito hills alive with the sounds of Brooklyn

Unique high school sports radio show

By John Gardella

Turn your radio dial to 88.1 FM any Thursday between 5 and 6 p.m. and you may be surprised by what you hear.

The voice isn't some Dick Clark-like impersonation. Instead, it's what you would expect to hear on the boardwalk at Coney Island, a deli in Sheepshead Bay or a street corner in Flatbush. The accent is straight out of Brooklyn, with a style and personality all its own. But perhaps think

Larry Merchant, the sports caster for HBO Sports. The voice isn't the broadcast's only unique characteristic. The one-hour sports talk show devotes its hour, exclusively, to prep sports.

"It's the only show of its kind in the area," says a defiant Marty Lurie, whose "Sports Prep Showcase" airs from KECG radio which is housed at El Cerrito

High. Listeners can hear KECG in the East Bay, as far north as Pinole and throughout San Francisco.

The format is simple, but highly effective. Lurie, a resident of Montclair in Oakland, begins his broadcast with an interview of a local high school coach, followed by a referee who offers an official's insight into the games. For the next 50 minutes, Lurie interviews prep sports writers throughout the Bay Area, who discuss upcoming games.

Lurie, whose son, Evan, was an all-league performer at linebacker for the El Cerrito Gauchos this past season, began the Prep Sports Showcase in January. As far as Lurie's concerned, he's having fun and providing a much-needed

'I think we have better sports...than any other sports show in the Bay Area.'

— MARTY LURIE

service.

"I think it's terrific for the kids and the coaches," he said recently. "Everyone is very cooperative, and I've gotten great feedback from students and parents."

High school sports aren't Lurie's



Jeff Lindquist

Marty Lurie, left, lawyer turned sports radio commentator, gives a cue to his co-host Lorraine Dowling at a recent EC football game.

only passion. The Brooklyn native, who broadcasts five hours a week, is also on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from noon to 1 p.m.

He devotes his Monday program to discussing the previous weekend's college and pro football and baseball games. He can offer

first-hand knowledge as he supplies updates of local games for Prime Sports Network and the Sports Fan Radio Network.

On Wednesday, Lurie and guest Tom Lampkin, the Giants catcher, who Lurie got to know after interviewing him two seasons ago, spend

the hour talking sports and getting a professional athlete's perspective.

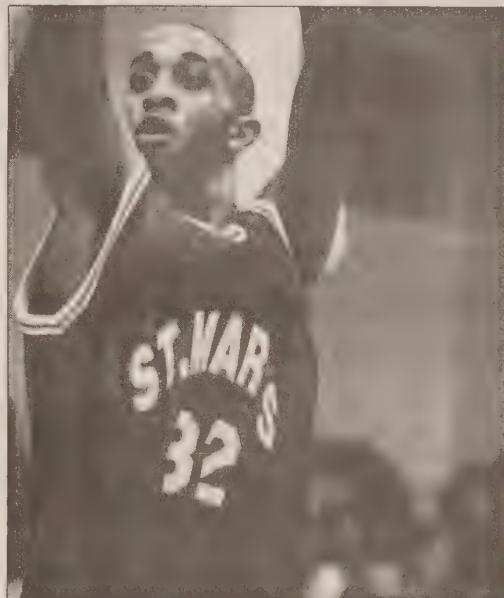
The Friday program consists of a preview of the college games that weekend.

In total, Lurie and KECG supply something for every sports fan — from the prep sports junkie to the

Giants fanatic. And in typical New York fashion, Lurie is blunt about his feelings.

"I think we have better sports during the five hours we are on, than any other sports show in the Bay Area," he says confidently.

See RADIO on page 16



Daniel Shaw has been St. Mary's most consistent player, averaging 18 points per game this year.

enth place.

The Panthers Thursday began the tourney with that aforementioned loss to San Ramon. The following evening they lost to Serra for the second time in a week, this time by one point.

When the teams met in St. Mary's

season opener, the Panthers entered the fourth quarter with a seven-point lead, it scored three points in the last eight minutes and lost by four.

It's been that kind of early going for Caraballo and the Panthers program. The second-year coach said the

See PANTHERS on page 16

Berkeley has had enough of OAL

In preparing for its East Bay Athletic League schedule which begins Jan. 14, the Berkeley boys basketball team has embarked on a lengthy tour of another league — the Oakland Athletic League.

Four of the Yellowjackets' first five games have been against OAL teams. Berkeley plays another OAL team Thursday when it faces McClymonds at 5 p.m. at Laney College in the opening round of the Downing / Oakland Chamber of Commerce Tournament. (See related story).

So far the Jackets have fared decently against teams that tend to be quicker and more athletic than the ones they play in the EBAL.

After losing last Tuesday's fast-paced contest at home against Skyline, 88-77, the Jackets are 3-2. They won earlier games over Oakland Tech, Oakland High, and McAteer.

Skyline engages a trapping, running game, and it was able to initiate that style of play against Berkeley.

"They (Skyline) really pushed us," Jackets coach Dan Palley said. "They really forced the tempo, and got us into a bit of a track meet."

Berkeley may have more success when it puts on its running shoes against its own league teams. Palley indicated that for the most part EBAL clubs play more halfcourt offense than his squad has seen in preseason games.

"We need to improve certainly on our halfcourt offense," Palley said. "We've had difficulty with other people's pressure, but I don't expect that to be a problem when league play starts. (EBAL) teams like San Ramon, Monte Vista, and Amador Valley play good halfcourt defense, and run solid pattern offenses."

The Jackets will attempt to counter the strong defense in their league with a more efficient halfcourt offense.

They'll turn primarily to power forward Justin Davis. Davis provides Berkeley with a lot of scoring up front. Just a sophomore, Davis has become the Jackets' most consistent performer.

Davis is joined in the starting lineup by seniors Josh Jackson and Ricky Meyers, sophomore shooting guard Perry Pugh, and junior point guard Marcus Cole.

On Tuesday, Davis muscled his way to 28 points in the loss to Skyline. Meyers added 12.

"We've played well at times this year, and at other times we've struggled," Palley summarized.

With a month to go before league play begins, Berkeley will have a chance to work on its running game as well as a slowed-down approach. By mid-January, the Jackets hope to have all their steps ready for the EBAL ball.

Panthers' boys: bad decisions

By John Gardella

Jose Caraballo has tried desperately to figure out what happened to one of his team's mental decisions. He's taken the figurative finger and tried pointing it at something, anything, that can explain why a team that finished 20 games over 500 in summer leagues and tournaments, is off to a 1-4 start.

The St. Mary's High boys basketball coach

can't come up with an answer.

"It's the decision-making, point blank," Caraballo said. "Every single time, except maybe the San Ramon game we lost by 44, has been winnable. But

we've made awful decisions down the stretch. I've tried figuring out why, but I can't. It's what we have to work on, but I don't know if it's fixable in practice."

Caraballo doesn't suffer losing very well, especially when the mistakes are of the mental variety.

"I expected them to play better than this," he says. "We have to make better decisions in the

fourth quarter."

Case in point: The Panthers Monday led by one against Miramonte. Caraballo called a time out and instructed his players to hold the ball. Thirty seconds later, one of them forced a 3-pointer which missed. After tying the game on a Billy Heidi three, the Panthers had possession with 40 seconds remaining but threw the ball away.

Case in point: With 1.5 seconds. St. Mary's committed a foul, sending a Miramonte player to the line. He converted both free throws.

Final score: Miramonte 64, St. Mary's 62.

"I was amazed," said a flabbergasted Caraballo. "We have several freshmen. You expect mistakes from them. But when the mistakes come from the experienced players, it's the final nail in the coffin."

The team's lone win came Saturday against McAteer, a 80-28 blowout in the De LaSalle Tournament. The victory came after two losses which dropped the Panthers seven-

th place.

The Panthers Thursday began

the tourney with that aforementioned loss to San Ramon. The following evening they lost to Serra for the second time in a week, this time by one point.

When the teams met in St. Mary's

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El Cerrito girls hoops: One-third of the way there

By John Gardella

If Donna Woods' goal for her El Cerrito High girls basketball team was to equal last season's win total, she'd be a third of the way home. But the Gauchos won just three games last season, and the coach believes her squad is better than that.

"I'd like to see us finish at 500 this season," Woods said. "The keys are to get our self-

confidence back and to work on defense."

Getting the defense right is a matter of repetition and hustle, but the Gauchos' self-confidence will come only after experiencing some success.

"We have six returning players," Woods said. "They remember how difficult last season was; how we struggled. Last year we had some inner-squad squabbles. This season, our practices have been no-nonsense. But it's hard

to build confidence in girls after just three wins last year."

Despite the returnees, EC is young in terms of varsity experience — only four players on this season's team saw extensive time last year. However, the nucleus is solid.

Senior Olivia Williams is the center. She is performing well on the boards. Helping her down low are Raina Dyer and Christine Chin.

"Raina and Christine are a real

good combination," Woods said. "Dyer is very quick. As a freshman last year, she was one of the few freshmen I've ever carried on a varsity team. Raina has come out like gang busters this year."

The other player with experience is Annie Hui, an off guard. Dyer, Hui and sophomore Lynne Tsugawa comprise the bulk of EC's perimeter game.

Another player Woods is expecting help from is Nicole Harris. Harris played two years ago, but elected not to play last sea-

son. Roxanne Milton and Lucy Tullis also provide inside assistance.

Woods doesn't have much height. Williams and Harris are the tallest players, but both are about 5-foot-9.

"I don't think height will be a problem for us, unless we play real tall teams," Woods said.

"Olivia and Nicole can jump and they do a nice job inside. Once they get their bearings and become comfortable playing

down low, we'll be all

The team's main nesses, Woods said, forward spots, where lacks experience, and the dling, Chin and Dyer terminating at the point in in lieu of natural point

The Gauchos open win against Mt. Falcon, losing to Napa and playing Oakland High in night, one of the three they beat last season.

"Being a Dodgers fan, I am the Yankees. The Sherman come outside after the Yankees another World Series and

Lurie, a former criminal who worked on more than 100 cases, began to burn on

In 1987, former Giants' producer Mike Shapiro, with

played softball, asked him to help with a large video set

A season later, he was in

the TV booth where Joe M

Duane Kuiper did his a

Last January, after one c

too many, Lurie left the law

to devote himself exclusively

"What I'm doing is so

said. "And the stress involved

in being a lawyer just isn't there."

And the Sherman brot

are both professionals now

"But I still think of them as

brothers who are Yankees."

You can take the kid on

lyn, but...

Panthers

Continued from page 15

team needs to experience some success in the near future, or it could be disastrous come league play.

"The players realize it's bad decision making," Caraballo said. "They are not losing confidence in their ability. But if we don't experience some success soon, we could go in the hole."

Daniel Shaw has been the Panthers

Jackets

Continued from page 15

will be McClymonds vs. Berkeley at 5 p.m. "For local fans, this will be the game of the day," Ferris said. "Two good teams with a lot of tradition meeting in a tournament setting."

The other first-day matchups will be Lodi-St. Ignatius at 6:45 p.m., followed by O'Dowd-Sacramento at 8:15 p.m.

Consolation games will be at 3:30 and 5 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 13, with the championship bracket games being held at 6:45 and 8:15 p.m. Saturday, the seventh-place game will be at 1 p.m.; the consolation championship will be at 2:30; the third-place game will be at 4:15; and the championship game will tip off at 6 p.m.

The tournament will also feature several top players, including 6-foot-9 center Darnell Tucker of McClymonds, 6-2 point guard Jonat Coleman of Skyline and 6-2 guard Alith Thomas of St. Ignatius. Thomas has already committed to attend

most consistent player to date. The senior is averaging 18 points, scored 17 against the Matadors and got selected to the all-tournament team.

The Panthers play Riordan and Merced this weekend at the Island Classic at St. Joseph. As with most of the teams Caraballo schedules for the pre-season, this weekend's competition are higher division teams than the Division IV St. Marys.

"Maybe I'm overzealous in playing the teams I do," Caraballo said. "But we have to prepare for league."

USF next year.

Other players of note are 6-6 forward Justin Davis of Berkeley, 6-7 center Julius Hicks of St. Ignatius; 6-7 center Eli Kiedrowski and 6-4 forward Kris Tetz of Lodi; and 6-6 center Josh Jackson. "This tournament is very important to the City of Oakland," Ferris said. "Bill Downing's love for basketball and Oakland were driving forces behind the tournament."

"As he wrote in the first tournament program in 1984, 'First we are committed to improving the quality of education in the Oakland school system and believe this effort should include athletics as well as academics. Secondly, a first-class basketball tournament gives us a chance to show off our city.'"

Ticket prices are \$6 for general admission, \$4 for students, and \$2 for children under 10. Weekend passes are \$15. Tickets can be purchased at the door. For further information, contact Scott Ferris at 238-3494. Laney College is located at 900 Fallon St., Oakland.

Girls

Continued from page 15

seniors Eden King, Maiko Kondo, Year-Ming Chen and Alena Brown, and sophomores Amy Foster and Tiffany Jessie

provide the Cougars with strong ball-handling and defense. Jessie contributed eight points and eight rebounds against Sacred Heart.

"We're not terribly deep," De Hart conceded, adding, "I also have concerns



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about our shooting and free throws, but our rebounding and defense is really improved."

It could be a very interesting year indeed for the Cougars if they continue to win games while not shooting well. So far, they have managed just fine with that minor insufficiency.

Radio

Continued from page 15

"We've had icons like Jim Rice and (Cal track and Olympic coach) Erv Hunt, and we've talked to all the local high school coaches. It's something for everyone."

Lurie's passion for sports and radio (he grew up listening to Red Barber describing Brooklyn Dodgers games, after all) took another step when he began doing live telecasts of EC baseball games. That spilled over into the football season where he and co-announcer Loraine Dowling did eight Gauchos football games.

Only the first, however, was a road game. Lurie explained why: "We went to Uihia to do the season opener. Well, the Gauchos are up by 40-something points and the people in the press box are down right hostile towards us. And it also costs money for the phone line." How passionate is Lurie about his craft and the subject matter? He does it for free.

A lifetime sports fan.

Jeff Lindquist
Marty Lurie, left, with radio partner Loraine Dowling. "It's the only show of its kind in the area."

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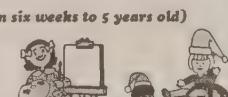
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President and CEO, Albert Greene, enthusiastically described the programs offered through Alta Bates. He is especially proud of the new Comprehensive Cancer Center which opened in 1995 at the Alta Bates Herrick Campus. Completely self-contained, the Center offers a sweeping array of medical services ranging from medical

oncology to its own pharmacy.

"Alta Bates is more than just a hospital," he explains, pointing out the extraordinarily high rate of survival for kidney transplants; its fine high-risk obstetrics program which has enjoyed great success in adjusting outcomes and the convenience of physician groups which are located throughout the East Bay.

Additionally, Alta Bates is the home of the largest and most comprehensive women and infants program in the East Bay.

The East Bay Medical Network, created in 1993, is a health alliance of 1,200 physicians and 10 hospitals geared to meeting the health care needs of the patient in a setting that is close to home and is the largest network of its kind in the East Bay.

ALTA BATES MEDICAL CENTER is located at 2450 Ashby Avenue, Berkeley, (510) 204-4444.

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JERILYN FEITELBERG

become the focus and Alta Bates is no exception. A pending alliance with Kaiser Permanente Hospital to provide women's services to Kaiser members using facilities at Alta Bates, will enable women to avail themselves of the remarkable neonatal and obstetric services offered there.

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REAL ESTATE

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Page 17

A Piedmont Arts and Crafts gem

By Mark A. Wilson

"Classic Piedmont Residence—Artistic and Reliable" read the original sales brochure when the house at 9 Craig Avenue in Piedmont first went up for sale in 1916. Today, 80 years later, this house retains many of the original features that made it such a "classic," even though it has been enlarged and remodeled several times over the years. Both the remaining historic details and the elegant renovation completed by its current owners make this home a fine example of an updated "Piedmont Classic".

The architectural style of the original house primarily reflects the Arts-and-Crafts Movement, largely the brainchild of the famed English designer William Morris. The Arts-and-Crafts Movement began in England in the late 1860s.

Morris and his followers developed a philosophy of design that rejected the affectation and "false" decoration of the Victorian Era. Instead, they emphasized three elements: a use of undisguised, natural materials like wood paneling and open beamed ceilings on interior.

or, and shingles, stucco, brick, or stone for exteriors; an open use of structural elements such as exposed roof beams, and sturdy wood or stucco posts on porches; and a mixture of historic details such as latticed windows and barge boards on gables, with geometric motifs used as "organic" ornament on glazed tiles, wainscoting, and fireplace mantels.

In the Bay Area, the Arts-and-

This classic Piedmont residence will be open Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m.

Crafts Movement influenced the early work of such giants of the First Bay Tradition as Bernard Maybeck, Ernest Coxhead, and Julia Morgan.

This mode remained popular in the Bay Area for the design of large homes like 9 Craig Avenue, and for smaller bungalows, well into the 1920s.

The original design for the exterior of the house incorporated a number of classic Arts-and-Crafts

features. The old high-peaked gables with barge boards remain, as do the exposed roof beams under the eaves.

Some of the original wood-latticed windows also remain along with the English Tudor style half-timber paneling on the upper story. Today, half-timbering from an early remodeling adorns the entire front portion of the house, lending a Tudor-Revival look to the exterior.

Gone are the geometric frieze motif that ran across the front of the house between the first and second story, and the wide entry porch with its massive stucco posts decorated by raised geometric patterns.

The interior of the house also retains many of its original features, although it has undergone a number of remodelings through the years. "The house was originally about two thirds it's current size," current owner John Wheaton said. "The rear addition was added in the 1960s."

The older front interior still has such historic features as inlaid oak floors, a staircase in the entry hall with curved banisters, beveled glass-windows set into the front



High peaked gables and barge boards with the exposed roof beams lend the home a unique Arts and Crafts flavor.

door and flanking 'sidelights', wooden Arts-and-Crafts archways with keystones in the entry hall, coffered ceilings, crown molding, and a large fireplace in the living room.

The current owners restored some of the original features that had been hidden or altered by previous residents.

In the living room for example, John says they found two of the old wood-latticed windows flanking the fireplace, that had been sealed up behind a later stucco wall.

They also refinished all the hardwood floors, and John (who was once trained as a carpenter) built a third archway from the entry hall into the original dining room to match the two existing arches.

The living area of nearly 4,800 square feet, includes the rear addition.

See HOUSE on page 20

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REAL ESTATE LAW CORNER



ROBERT HAYES

Arbitration: a primer

Increasingly, buyers and sellers of residential properties are choosing to include a mandatory arbitration clause in their purchase contracts because they have been told that arbitration is cheaper than litigation when a dispute develops.

This is sometimes the case, particularly when the disputed amount is relatively small. In my experience, however, more complicated disputes involving larger amounts of money often turn out to be nearly as expensive as comparable lawsuits.

One reason is that arbitrations seem rarely to settle before the hearing, which can stretch on for days or weeks, whereas civil lawsuits almost always settle before trial, eliminating this expensive phase of the process.

So, what other factors should one consider before electing mandatory arbitration of disputes? Unlike a lawsuit, the proceedings are private, not a matter of public record, an undoubted plus. The arbitration process is also very likely

to be completed quicker than litigation.

Most arbitrations are heard within six months of filing, whereas litigation is likely to go on for two to three years before resolution. In addition, arbitration is a much less formal process than litigation. The rules of evidence used in court, for example, may or may not be adhered to in an arbitration. It's basically the arbitrator's call.

On the other hand, an arbitration can be just what its name implies—arbitrary. This is because the arbitrator is not required to follow the law, nor even, for that matter, to know the law (arbitrators are not always lawyers).

Nor is he or she required to justify or explain the decision which is reached and most don't. In addition, for all practical purposes, there is no appeal from an arbitrator's decision.

So strong is the judicial policy of enforcing contract arbitration agreements that, unlike litigation, where trial results are often appeal-

able, the parties to an arbitration are pretty much stuck with the arbitrator's decision.

In addition, the right to discovery in contract arbitration is entirely controlled by the language of the arbitration clause and some are less generous than others in this regard.

For some parties in some cases, the opportunity to develop admissible evidence by means of various discovery procedures (e.g., interrogatories and depositions) is critically important. It isn't always available in the arbitration context.

Although anybody can act as an arbitrator if acceptable to the parties, the typical arbitration clause found in the purchase documents used by local Realtors provides that the arbitration shall be conducted according to the rules of either Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services (JAMS) or the American Arbitration Association (AAA).

This will insure a basic level of competence although one is well advised to make sure that the person selected is well-grounded in the area of dispute as well as in the relevant law. JAMS, by the way, is primarily composed of retired judges, whereas AAA uses lawyers and non-lawyers as arbitrators.

Once selected, the arbitrator decides how strictly or loosely to en-

force the applicable rules, although JAMS commits itself to employing the statutory rules of evidence.

Arbitrators, however, are inevitably flexible about such matters in order to insure that each side has ample opportunity to make its case and present its evidence.

The hearing itself will be held in the offices of the arbitrator or one of the attorneys and is very likely to be conducted less formally than a trial. Since there is so little grounds for appeal, there is almost never a court reporter present.

The parties (through their attorneys) may or may not make opening statements, depending on the preferences of the arbitrator.

A well-prepared party will have previously briefed the issues in writing, so the arbitrator will already know what the dispute is about and what that party hopes to get out of the arbitration. Each side then puts on its witnesses, who testify under oath and are subject to cross-examination.

Finally, there may be closing arguments by each side, again at the discretion of the arbitrator. Occasionally, the arbitrator will request additional briefing of issues. Expert witnesses may also be heard from when their testimony is ap-

See HAYES on page 20

Northbrae Properties hosts annual gift sale

This year's Women's Daytime Drop-in Center Annual Holiday Gift Sale, sponsored by Northbrae Properties of Berkeley will feature hundreds of unusual holiday items, crafted by some of the Bay Area's most gifted and accomplished designers and artists.

The scaled-down version of the Women's Daytime Drop-in Center is a volunteer effort of East Bay community women providing homeless women and children a safe, daytime refuge where they receive support, food and access to emergency survival resources to overcome homelessness.

The holiday gift show, now in its fifth year, was conceived by Anita Thede, former president of the Berkeley Association of Realtors and owner of Northbrae Properties in Berkeley. Each year Northbrae converts its offices into an art gallery, displaying the work of some of the Bay Area's most creative artisans.

The show includes work of ceramic artist Robert Ukena-Edney, a

master fountain maker who made water fountains for the 1994 World Cup Soccer tournament. "These are pieces of love," says Edney. "I hope which a little of the love that goes into each piece is handed with it."

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Designer Cameron Cameron, who sells most of her work returns this year with an exciting collection of jewelry and day ornaments remade from old-world jewels and antiques.

Each year Chardoul sculpts rope for unusual crystals and elaborately worked sita gold filigree. She reworks

See SALE on page 20

REALITY by TOM HOLSTLAW



Yeah, but the 14 foot trees were the same price as the 8 foot trees.

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***985 POST.** One-level, 3 BD, 1 BA, move-in condition **REDUCED \$10,000**

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FAVORITE EL CERRITO NEIGHBORHOOD

This spacious two bedroom home offers a large family room, bonus room for extra play or workspace, a super yard and garden view and more. Walking distance to Plaza BART and shopping. Mary Gray 527-9111, 466-5843

HOME SWEET HOME

The market is hot and this attractive two bedroom home is a good value. Good floor plan includes dining room, big kitchen, hardwood floors, fireplace plus extra space for study or workshop. Dee Plunkett 527-9111, 273-9506

DREAMS CAN COME TRUE

This wonderful three bedroom home is ready to move in. Big kitchen, landscaped yard, big garage space. Don't miss this deal. Dee Plunkett 527-9111, 273-9506

LOTS & LOTS OF LOTS

Beautiful view lots in numerous El Cerrito locations. Ranging from 6,700 sq. ft. to 2.76 acres. Some have been subdivided, some may be subdividable. Excellent hill and park side neighborhoods. Mary Gray 527-9111, 466-5843

NEW ON MARKET

Spacious 4 bedroom home in a quiet El Cerrito neighborhood. Excellent floor plan with hardwood floors, fireplace and eat-in kitchen. Convenient to shops and transportation. Matean Everson 527-9111, 482-6226

CREEK SETTING

Large level lot in a prime El Cerrito location. Wonderful neighborhood, walking distance to everything. Terri Huang 527-9111, 233-6365

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sq ft	ba	life style	city	home #
2	1	In a peaceful residential district. \$143,000	Alameda	2501
2	2	Low maintenance starter home	Alameda	2521
5	2.5	Growing family 5 bedroom Victorian	Alameda	2531
2	2.5	8 yrs old, in the Normandy development, no Melo Roos Bond!	Alameda	2571
2	1	Well located in the East End. Extra storage	Alameda	2591
5	2	A Victorian Fixer in a TEN+ neighborhood	Alameda	2601
4	3	Like New. Largest Floorplan in the Area	Alameda	2621
4	3	Harbor Bay Isle home on sunny corner lot	Alameda	2711
3	2.5	Better than new in Normandy development	Alameda	2731
4	3	Distress Sale. Seller Motivated. Call now!!	Alameda	2741
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3	2	Charm-style home on a large wooded lot, country living	Oakland	2551
3	2.5	Unusual Architecture with sweeping SF and Bay views	Oakland	2561
2	1	Clean sharp w/ new carpets & paint	Oakland	2581
2/1	1/1	Duplex with w/ew. A short walk to Grand Ave. and Lakeshore	Oakland	2611
5	3	Grand Mediterranean Style with view	Oakland	2631
2	2	Large wooded lot & Natural Redwood Home	Oakland	2651
4	2	Location, Location, Location! Call now!	Oakland	2671
3	1.5	Style and a touch of class make this one a steal	Oakland	2761
2	1	The home is perfect. Termite clear. Great Neighborhood	Oakland	2771
3	1	Mr. and Mrs. Clean were here. You really see this one!	Oakland	2841
3	1	A little bit of country. You'll love the atmosphere.	Oakland	2851
3	2	Picture perfect on 3 lots with gated entry. \$430,000.	Oakland	2871
3	2	Level Lot Available	San Leandro	2661
3	2	Bay O Vista Beachy. Ready for a quick sale & Immed. Occupancy	San Leandro	2881
		AGENTS WANTED — P/T weekends only. Sal + Com.		

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Oakland

\$73,900 3877 HOWE #309. Great location! Walk to Piedmont Ave! Spacious 1 BD condo in a nice complex, near bus line. Peter Fletcher 523-5750

\$139,000 625 MADISON #208. Spacious & light 2 BD, 2 BA corner unit with 2 balconies! Convenient to shopping & freeway access! Anna Woo 865-5346

\$139,000 5435 HOLLAND. Gorgeous 2 BD, 2 BA, bungalow. PENDING! 5 baths, wood floors, master E suite + walk-in closet! Two-car garage! Tim Mar 865-5226

\$249,500 311 CHADBOURNE. A 1-level 3 BD, 2 BA bungalow. Walk-in closet! Hardwood floors, patio deck. **SOLD** Attached garage! Probate Sale! Martin Turner 814-4828

\$325,000 3923 BROADWAY. Unique commercial building! Features kitchen, bar, meeting rooms, offices, storage rooms, restrooms, plus parking. Elaine Budka 814-4833

San Leandro

\$99,000 994 LEWELLING. Beautiful, bright, upper 2 BD unit! Storage on deck & 2 parking spaces, one covered! Anna Woo 865-4340 or Tere Lee 521-3352

\$142,000 14163 SEAGATE. A ground-level 2 bedroom condo in a wonderful location! Separate laundry room, fireplace, complex pool, & view of courtyard! Tere Lee 521-3352

\$151,900 14149 OUTRIGGER. Panoramic view of golf course! PENDING! 2 bedroom unit in Tranquill se. Laundry, fireplace, custom shu.

\$168,950 13737 SEAGATE. A cherry move-in condition 3 BD, 2 1/2 BA condo! Formal dining, fireplace, wonderful gated community with pool & spa, close to golf course & marina! Steve Cressy 814-4818

Albany

\$167,000 709 JOHNSON. Immaculate 2 BD, 1 BA home in move-in condition! Hardwood floors, new laminate in kitchen, new lighting, fireplace & good schools, attached garage! Connie Hanna 814-4814

El Cerrito

\$257,000 549 COLUSA. Great view! Three BD, 2 BA in move-in condition! Near shopping & transportation! Marita Turner 814-4828

Vallejo

\$139,000 451 WHITNEY. Handyman's dream home! Pick your own carpets, paint & landscaping, the home needs it all 4 BD, 3 BA & 2-car attached garage! Tim Mar 865-6226

Creek Setting

Large level lot in a prime El Cerrito location. Wonderful neighborhood, walking distance to everything. Terri Huang 527-9111, 233-6365

7502 FAIRMOUNT AVE, EL CERRITO

Insurance: despair sprinkled with hope

Number 174 in a series of true experiences in real estate.

In my opinion there is precious little to like about insurance. I hate the fact that I need it and I hate paying for it. I don't want to think enough to understand insurance either. Comparing coverage and price is a dull chore.

In the "olden days," 20 years or so, I had an insurance agent who took care of things for me. He took me auto and homeowner's insurance, figured out how much liability coverage I needed and bought said attention to the financial health of the companies I was involved with, and so forth.

He didn't make me understand it and I was grateful. Things were simpler then. Insurance agents usually represented a number of companies, the coverage offered was pretty fair, losses were paid without a lot of questions asked, at least in my experience, I could file a claim without fear of being canceled.

It's a new ball game now, especially since the Loma Prieta and Northridge earthquakes and the Oakland fire. Insurance companies have become very picky. They are hoping to write cream-of-the-crop insurance. In other words, they'd like to suffer no losses.

I do understand that they have to take money to stay in business, but, boy oh boy, it sure seems that

insurance costs a lot. I just added up what I pay for all the insurance I buy (health, life, car and home) and the total is more than \$8,000 a year.

This is a lot of money, considering I am responsible for deductibles and apparently, if I file two claims in three years on my car or home insurance, I will be canceled and will have great difficulty finding insurance again.

In our business we deal primarily with homeowner's insurance. Buyers need it. It can be hard to get — and expensive. A seller may be paying, say, \$600 a year for standard coverage (no earthquake), whereas the buyer of that same house will have to pay \$1200 for a new policy.

None of our sales has failed for lack of insurance but we tell buyers these days to start looking for coverage early. It's not too soon to inquire about insurance even before finding the house they want to buy.

Although at that early point, they won't get more than a generally positive or generally negative response. Commitment must wait until there is a specific house to inquire about.

First-time home buyers who have rental insurance are often told by their insurance carriers that they will not have any trouble getting homeowner's insurance and sometimes this is true.

If the house was built as recently

as 1950, obtaining coverage is comparatively easy. Unfortunately much of the most desirable housing stock in our area is older. Those charming brown shingles built around 1910 can be especially difficult — no matter how they've been improved.

Insurance companies invariably ask if the electrical service has been upgraded to circuit breakers because they won't insure a house that has fuses. This has become so common that when we list older houses, we advise sellers to add circuit breakers before marketing, if at all possible.

Sometimes companies go further, asking if any knob and tube wiring is left in the walls. There always is, they know it and they won't write coverage because of it.

Some insurers inquire about earthquake retrofit and will not offer coverage unless it has been done. Once we were involved in a sale in which insurance coverage hinged on whether the chimney was braced to withstand an earthquake.

The buyer was willing to brace it and asked what kind of bracing would satisfy the company. No one could tell her. There were no written standards. No doubt they simply did not want to offer coverage.

We know right off that a company is going to deny insurance when they ask for a copy of the buyer's physical inspection. Even in a very clean, well-maintained



TARPOFF & TALBERT

home, the inspection report will detail a number of deficiencies.

The company receives the report, then announce that the house doesn't meet their standards. This has happened to a number of our buyers.

Strangely we have not found that the companies care about how close a house is to earthquake faults. No one asks and, we are told, the companies don't look at the maps either.

Our clients who have bought houses very close to fault lines have had no more trouble getting insurance, even earthquake coverage, than those who bought much farther away.

Not everyone wants earthquake coverage. Many people feel that because the premiums are costly and the deductibles high — 15 percent at least, sometimes as high as 25 percent — that they'll just take their chances.

"If my house falls down, a lot of other houses will fall down too," they reason. "Then the government will be offering low interest loans."

Berkeley Realtors form 'Can Tree' network

The Berkeley Association of Realtors (BAR) has teamed up with the Alameda County Community Food Bank's "Can Tree Holiday Food Drive."

Barrels for your donations of nonperishable foods are located at:

- BAR Headquarters, 1553 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way
- Berkeley Hills Realty, 1714 Solano Ave.
- Coldwell Banker, 1495 Shattuck Ave.
- Jackson & Karr, 720 The Alameda
- Marvin Gardens, 1577 Solano Ave.
- Mason McDuffie Real Estate offices at: 1417 Solano Ave. Albany 3030 Ashby, Claremont

Barrels will be in place for your generous donations through December. The barrel at BAR Headquarters will be available until Jan. 10.

and that's what I'll have to get to rebuild."

I recently got quotes for earthquake insurance on my house. For \$230,000 coverage, the premium was \$700 with a deductible of 15 percent. I would be responsible for paying the first \$35,000 in repairs before the insurance company would pay anything. I passed.

(Under the new California Earthquake Authority that began Dec. 1, the premium would \$1300 with a 15 percent deductible.)

So, do we have any good news? Yes, we do. A couple of years ago we were introduced to a hardworking insurance agent who we are glad to know and do business with: Robert Krikourian.

"Rob," who writes all kinds of insurance, has been able to provide homeowners insurance for many of our buyers. Rob represents Farmers Insurance, as well as several other companies. We find him smart, fair, candid and thorough.

Feeling as I do about insurance, when interviewing Rob, I naturally asked him, "How can you stand

See TARPOFF on page 20

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3BR, 2BA, 1 car gar, approx. 1,159 sq. ft., master suite, custom kitchen w/oak cabinets, new paint in & out. #W38462. Sarah Lo (510) 235-3983

VIEW HOME / PRICE REDUCTION \$199,900
4BR, 2BA, new paint in & out, termite clearance, new carpet & lino, could be a 3rd bdrm with master suite. Detached building for office, partial basement. #W38491 Dwayne Bartels 510-222-4061

FAB BAY VIEW / QUIET STREET \$239,000
3BR, 1.25BA, approx. 1,900 sq ft with den or family room, 2-car garage, deck, nice back yard. #W38547 Paul Triplett 510-223-3287

PRICE REDUCTION / HUGE HOUSE \$274,950
3BR, 2.5BA, immac. tri-level, new paint, newer carpets over hdwd flrs, G, G. view! Priv. bckyrd, clear termite. #W37551 John Anderson 510-237-8842

EXCELLENT LOC/CITY LIGHTS / Price reduction again! \$279,900
3BR, 2BA, over 1800 sq. ft. on a secluded st in the hills. Ultra clean 1/4 acre lot, new lino in kit, hdwd flrs. #W38623 Ed Messner 510-799-3527

NEW CONSTRUCTION E.C. HILLS / Price Reduction!!!! \$299,000
4BR, 2BA, formal dining, 2 car att'd gar, huge fam rm with fp, limestone flrs in kitchen, entry & baths, master suite with Whirlpool tub, new neutral carpet. New landscaping! #W38593 Jerry Garner 510-237-8010

KENSINGTON / ALCBANY

CREEKSIDE LUSH SETTING \$399,000
3BR, 2BA, Kensington. Complete in-law w/separate entrance. Over 2,000 sq. ft., large lot, fam rm, hardwood flrs, bonus rm, 2-car gar, cul-de-sac. #W39365. John Anderson (510) 237-8842

FIXER!! ALCBANY \$229,950
3BR, 1BA almost 1,300 sq. ft., 30K Termite work! 1-car gar, newer roof. #W39349. Michele Manzone (510) 222-2644



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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents, or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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171 ALPINE TERRACE, UPPER ROCKRIDGE - 4BD/4+BA-\$1,000,000 Superbly crafted new classic Med with spectacular views. Dee Knowland	1387 BARROWS, CROCKER HIGHLANDS - 3BD/1+BA-\$299,000 Adorable Cape Cod, updated kitchen, great outdoor space. Donna Costello
1704 BROADWAY TERRACE, MONTCLAIR - 4+BD/4+BA-\$899,000 Gorgeous new const., courtyard entry, pane 3-bridge view. Vicki Woodhead	1510 MCGEE AVENUE, BERKELEY - 3BD/2+BA-\$295,000 Walk to Monterey market & BART! Spacious, den, rumpus rm. Rich Gould
6258 RUTHLAND ROAD, MONTCLAIR - 3+BD/2+BA-\$749,000 Beautiful design, 3 years new on 3/4 acre. SF/GG views! Ann Nichols	6416 HEATHER RIDGE, MONTCLAIR - 3BD/2BA-\$279,000 Private master suite, large back yard, deck, updated kitchen. Kathy Flynn
6467 ARLINGTON AVE, BERKELEY - 4BD/3BA-\$564,900 Updated Spanish Med with artistic flair, patios, gardens Joanna Gould	3742 SILVERWOOD, LAUREL - 2+BD/1BA-\$215,000 Impressive! Hdwd flrs, formal DR, great level-out yard. Sandi Klemmer
728 SAYRE DRIVE, MONTCLAIR - 4+BD/3BA-\$395,000 New listing! Custom home, private setting, fenced yard. Sally Morrison	55 TURTLE CREEK, OAKLAND HILLS - 2BD/2BA-\$209,000 Just listed! All level and unit townhouse on cul-de-sac. Chuck Convin
195 ST. JAMES DRIVE, PIEDMONT - 3BD/3BA-\$380,000 Beautiful setting, renovated interior, formal DR, fam rm. Sally Morrison	49 IRONWOOD, OAKLAND HILLS - 3BD/2BA-\$199,500 Spacious townhome, bay view, level back yard, 2-car gar. Robyn Mohr
731 DUNCAN WAY, MONTCLAIR - 4+BD/3BA-\$339,000 4+BD/4+BA lot in private creekside setting, lg rooms. Donna DeBard	7933 SANFORD STREET, OAKLAND - 3BD/2BA-\$182,000 Sparkling home w/upgrades galore, new kitchen, level yard. Tom Anthony
4480 OAKWOOD DRIVE, MONTCLAIR - 4+BD/3BA-\$339,000 Right 5 year old contemporary, family room, canyon views. Tom Anthony	2903 CARMEL ST, LINCOLN HEIGHTS - 2BD/1+BA-\$139,000 Spacious townhome, enclosed patio, garage, in-unit laundry. Nancy Chew
3305 HENRY STREET, BERKELEY \$319,000 TO \$425,000 New townhomes, 2 & 3 bdrms, finest quality, yards/steaks. Patricia Scott	

BY APPOINTMENT

PIEDMONT / OAKLAND / BERKELEY

MAGNIFICENT PIEDMONT PROPERTY \$2,250,000 Exceptional home on 1/2 acre, 7-BD/5+BA, rich architectural detail, designer kitchen/fam rm, library, pool. Georgia Cornell	REDWOOD HEIGHTS CONTEMPORARY \$239,500 Wonderful home with city/bay views and park-like back yard. 3BD/2BA, updated eat-in kitchen, great deck. Vicki Woodhead
PANORAMIC VIEWS - PIEDMONT \$1,049,000 Elegant and sophisticated w/fabulous views of cities & bay! Dee Bonham	PIEDMONT AVENUE CHARMER \$235,000 1920's bungalow, remodeled kit with French doors to patio, FDR, built-in cabinet, easy walk to Piedmont Ave. Joan Dark
FOUR BRIDGE SF - PIEDMONT \$599,000 Spectacular SF bay view from all rooms! Remodeled 4BD/3BA, pristine condition, very private setting. Martha Holstow	ONE LEVEL LIVING \$215,000 Move-in condition! Choice large lot with hill view. 3BD/2BA, family room off kitchen, hardwood flrs, beautiful yard. Wendy Gardner
PRIVATE GARDEN SETTING \$549,000 Prquisite contemporary with bay views. Dramatic entry, 4BD/3+BA, formal DR, gorgeous kitchen/fam rm, many extras. Wendy Gardner	REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$199,000 Great location, tremendous expansion potential. 2BD/1BA, large eat-in kitchen, dining area opens to back yard. Thomas Wurst
PIEDMONT SIDE OF MONTCLAIR \$499,000 Newly built, remodeled eat-in kit, bonus room & bath w/separate utility, excellent floor plan, stunning gardens. Donna DeBard	UPPER FRUITVALE AREA \$182,000 Good value! Nice quiet neighborhood above MacArthur. 4BD/3BA home w/patio. 2-car gar w/storage. Thomas Wurst
CHINA HILL CHARMER \$312,000 4BD/3+BA, remodeled eat-in kit, bonus room & bath w/separate utility, excellent floor plan, stunning gardens. Donna DeBard	BROWN SHINGLE CHARMER \$125,000 2BD/2BA, formal dining, hdwd flrs, large kitchen, fireplace, alarm system, secured level back yard. Kathy Flynn
WALK TO REGIONAL PARK! \$279,000 All level home on 1/4 acre lot in Parkridge Estates. 3BD/2BA, large fam rm, plus rm, new carpets & paint. Vicki Woodhead	PERFECT STARTER HOME \$125,000 Laurel district home with 2BD/1BA, hardwood floors throughout, level yard, detached garage. Nancy Chew

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BERKELEY • OAKLAND • ALCBANY • PIEDMONT • KENSINGTON • EL CERRITO

BERKELEY

MODERN MASTERPIECE. Exciting architect designed contemporary of highest quality! Spectacular views of SF, Bay & Claremont Canyon hills! 3BR, den, office, 3.5BA. Bebe McRae ext. 145..... \$895,000

NORTH BERKELEY MEDITERRANEAN. 4+BR/3BA. San Francisco and Golden Gate views. Gourmet kitchen to deck & private level yd. X-large lot. Nancy Lee Noman ext. 124..... \$625,000

GLORIOUS VIEWS - PRIVATE SETTING. 4+BR/2.5BA architect designed contemporary. Great for entertaining. Nancy Lee Noman ext. 124..... \$449,000

PROBATE FIXER. 2+1. Faye Keogh ext. 126..... \$99,000

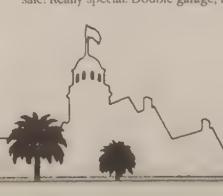
OAKLAND

MODERN MASTERPIECE. Exciting architect designed contemporary of highest quality! Spectacular views of SF, Bay & Claremont Canyon hills! 3BR, den, office, 3.5BA. Bebe McRae ext. 145..... \$895,000

ROSE GARDEN WALK - Exquisite new condos at an affordable price. 2BR, 2BA, hdwd flrs, frpls & vists. Hurry, only 4 left! Ron Egherman ext. 127..... \$185,000 & up

EL CERRITO

1005 EVERETT AVENUE Open Sunday 2-4. This is an absolutely adorable & pristine starter home, REDUCED for quick sale! Really special! Double garage, many extras! Move-in condition! SELLER MOTIVATED! Susie Schevill ext. 144..... \$181,500



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House...

Continued from page 17

tion and a 600-square-foot artist's studio on the third floor. The home boasts 14 rooms with 5 bedrooms, 3 full baths, and 2 half baths. Full Bay views can be enjoyed from the master bedroom and the studio. When the Wheatons bought the home four years ago, it was in need of some major repairs, and some upgrading in the '60s addition.

"Two things made us decide to buy this house," John recalls. "The first was the artist's studio on the top floor, my wife could use it to do her architectural paintings. Secondly we saw the potential in the house: the possibility to restore the original section and unify it aesthetically with the newer wing."

The Wheatons hired East Bay contractor and designer Tom Nowell to help with the renovation of the original section and a complete remodeling of the addition.

Tarpoff...

Continued from page 17

being in this business?" And he replied, "It's a challenge."

He went on to talk about what has happened to the industry in the last 10 years. "There are big problems and changes going on," he says and these have caused him to make time to become personally involved in reforming insurance

"We took the back part of the house down to the studs," explains John. The entire project was completed within six months, right on schedule—a minor miracle considering the scale of the job.

A new open-style gourmet kitchen was created, incorporating the old gas stoves with new cabinets and counters sitting area was created adjacent to the kitchen, which opens onto a balcony and deck through French doors.

At the back of the house, a new combination dining room and family room was designed so it that it takes advantage of the private patio behind it, which can now be enjoyed through latticed glass doors. And to create an easier access to the living quarters on the second floor, Nowell created a new, segmented staircase that fits neatly between the kitchen and the dining room.

The Wheatons have put this "Classic Piedmont Residence" on the market because they're moving to Washington state, to be close to

practices, also to go to Sacramento to "keep us from being legislated out of business."

He represents himself well. We like him. Robert Krikourian, whose office is in Fremont, can be reached at 792-5900 or (800) 817-2807.

And Tarpoff and Par Talbertain licensed real estate agents and area specialists who also offer hourly real estate consulting and coaching. They can be reached at 653-2050.

John's family and to take advantage of a new professional opportunity there.

When asked what they will miss most about the house after they move, John said, "Well, it's been a very functional yet fun house for us. It's provided a lot of individual privacy for each family member—and at the same time, it's a great

house for entertaining groups of people."

Or, as the original sales brochure put it, "Artistic and Reliable".

Number 9 Craig Avenue is listed for \$1,125,000. The listing agent is Margaret Wade, of Mason McDuffie's Piedmont office. She can be reached at (510) 644-5445.

Hayes...

Continued from page 18

proper.

Once all of the evidence is in and the arbitration is closed, the arbitrator may take up to thirty days to make an award, which will include reimbursement of some of all of the prevailing party's legal fees and costs if the underlying contract contains an attorney's fees clause (the

CAR Deposit Receipt form does).

The prevailing party can then obtain an enforceable judgment by filing a petition in Superior Court to confirm the arbitrator's award.

Robert Hayes is a real estate attorney with the Oakland firm of Hayes & Ware. He is a former active real estate broker and UC Extension instructor in Real Estate Practice. He can be reached at 763-7195.

Sale...

Continued from page 18

into unusual, timeless adornments to wear or hang on the tree. Each element of a piece carries its own history, its own story.

"There is great romance and life here—love affairs and broken hearts, triumphs and tragedies," said Chardoul. "The stories are lost, but by creating new pieces from old, I like to think the spirit of the old lives in the new design, transcending time and linking us to our past."

The gift show will also feature the

hand blown glass of Dan Reilly whose work is catching the eye of the interior design trade. Reilly's handmade vases and ornaments will be available for sale and make ideal gifts. Many other items, from handmade greeting cards to whimsical hats and leaded glass candle holders will round out the collection.

The show will be held at Northbrae Properties, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14 and Sunday, Dec. 15 at 1600 Hopkins Street, Berkeley, one block from Monterey Market. For more information about the show or for directions call 526-4336. Visa and Mastercard accepted.

been phenomenal," said Templeton.

"Our barrel in the window flows within a couple of wonderful."

Toy donations will be taken through Christmas Eve, and distributed to children in the community.

Drop off new, unwrapped toys for boys or girls—babies, children, and adults—at Templeton Community Center, 3070 Claremont Avenue, at any local firehouse.

Realty company sponsors 'Toys for Tots' campaign

Templeton Company again joins forces with the U. S. Marine Corps in the annual "Toys for Tots" campaign.

Designed to help children in need, the program distributes the toys to homes and centers where the donations will make the holidays a bit happier for those kids who are truly needy.

Toys and gift items are needed for boys and girls of all ages.

"We have been designated a collection point for the program for four years and the generosity has

Faux finishing, cabinet refacing on tap at Building Ed Center

The nonprofit Building Education Center (BEC), 812 Page Street, Berkeley presents two workshops on Sun., Dec. 15: "Faux Finishes:

Surface Transformation w/ and "Cabinet Refacing."

Call BEC at 525-7610 for information.

Seatbelts prevent needless injuries

DOWNPAYMENT ASSISTANCE FOR FIRST TIME BUYERS

Are you a low to moderate income, first-time homebuyer interested in purchasing a home in Emeryville? CONTACT: The Emeryville Redevelopment Agency's First Time Home Buyer's Program (510) 596-4316

DOWNPAYMENT ASSISTANCE FOR FIRST TIME BUYERS

Are you a low to moderate income, first-time homebuyer interested in purchasing a home in Emeryville? CONTACT: The Emeryville Redevelopment Agency's First Time Home Buyer's Program (510) 596-4316

Montclair



339-8400



339-4000

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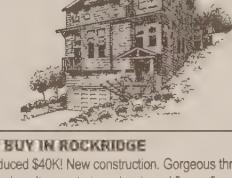
mbh@dnai.com



INCOME GENERATOR \$545,000

Classic brown shingle 4plex above rose garden, \$4800 gross/much remodelling done. Architect expansion plans available.

NICK LAVROV 339-8400



BEST BUY IN ROCKRIDGE

\$429,000 Just reduced \$40K! New construction. Gorgeous thruout. Kit/FR

combo w/granite countertops, hardwood floors, fireplace. Formal dining room, sunken living room w/high ceilings, master suite/junior suite. 3BR, 3.5BA.

NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670



A HOME YOU'LL BE PROUD TO OWN

\$345,000 4BR, 3BA contemp ranch in the Oakland Hills. Beautiful hardwood floors, 2-sided brick fireplace. Remodeled kitchen, private courtyard w/wood deck, skylit LR w/vaulted ceilings, view.

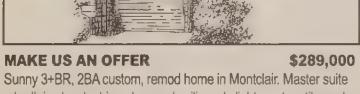
NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670



BACK ON THE MARKET

\$319,000 3BR, 3BA in the Montclair Hills. Eat-in kitchen/formal dining room w/access to private deck. Large rumpus/family rm. BR/bath, eat-in room downstairs. Lots of storage. Wooded view from deck.

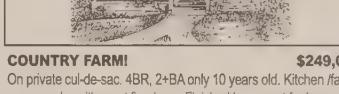
NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670



MAKE US AN OFFER \$289,000

Sunny 3+BR, 2BA custom, remod home in Montclair. Master suite w/walk-in closet, atrium, beamed ceiling, skylight, custom tile work, plank oak floors, private level backyard w/deck.

NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670



COUNTRY FARM

\$249,000 On private cul-de-sac. 4BR, 2+BA only 10 years old. Kitchen/family room combo w/great fireplace. Finished basement for home office.

TOM NEMETH 339-8400



CROCKER HIGHLANDS - BEST VALUE

\$229,950 Just listed. Relocated seller priced to sell, clean, sharp home, new, dual pane windows, eat-in kitchen, formal dining room, workshop, garage with interior access, fireplace in living room; yard

CHARLENE CLAYBAUGH 339-8400 x216



EXQUISITE RESTORATION COMPLETE \$189,000

Come home to a by-gone era! Gorgeous Victorian - updated w/ quality and historical accuracy in mind! 4BR/2BA, double-parlor, new kitchen/baths & more!! STEVEN BIASATTI 339-8400 x216

SPACIOUS ART DECO IN ROCKRIDGE \$395,000

Spacious rooms, good floor plan and excellent indoor/outdoor rapport. Lots of space for large family, in-home office/studio and A-1 location above College. RACHEL BALLER 339-8400

CROCKER HIGHLANDS TRADITIONAL \$349,000

Elegant two story home, 3BR, 2.5BA, hardwood floors, remodeled, sunny throughout. Very affordable for Crocker Highlands. Walking distance to shops. MARK ATTARHA 339-4000

GRAFTON HOME PLUS INCOME \$335,000

Piedmont Ave. area. Magnificent brown shingle duplex conveniently near trendy and traditional Piedmont Ave. shops. ROSEMARY GREENE 635-9842

CLASSIC PIEDMONT BUNGALOW! \$325,000

Traditional 3BR, 2BA on quiet street. Great detail, large formal rooms, hardwood floors. Updated eat-in kitchen, master suite, level, cute yard with fountain. STEVEN BIASATTI 339-8400 x239

HOME WITH BAY VIEW, PRICED TO SELL \$264,950

4BR, 3BA contemp w/patio bay views. Large deck off of living room, master suite w/gorgeous bath, family room off kitchen. CHARLENE CLAYBAUGH 339-8400 x216

LOTS OF HOUSE FOR THE \$! \$279,000

Walk to Montclair Village from this 4BR, 2BA traditional. Large lot with many garden areas. Family room down could be home office/au-pair space. LYNN MURRAY 339-8400

MONTCLAIR HIDE-AWAY \$275,000

Beautiful canyon view. 3BR, 2BA with easy floor plan. Hardwood floors. Total privacy. Rec room/office. CARIN CARO 339-8400

COUNTRY LIVING W/PANO VIEW \$269,000

OPEN SUNNY. Farmhouse charm with updated modern conveniences on approx 1/4 secluded acres. 2+BR, 1.5BA. Lots of space. HOWARD RODKIN 339-8400

MINI MANSION IN ADAMS POINT \$268,500

Large traditional 4BR, 1+BA, sun porch, rumpus room w/separate entrance, plenty of off street parking, walking to lake, shopping & public transit. CHARLENE CLAYBAUGH 339-8400 x216

ARTISTS & WRITERS HAVEN! \$249,500

Owner motivated to sell this 2BR chalet. fireplace in living room enhanced by nature landscaping country living in the city close to shops & transp. MORRIE FEIGENBERG 547-6975

HOW DO YOU SPELL VALUE? \$249,000

This 5BR, 4BA home has it all. Bay view, remodeled, high ceiling, attached large garage, private, 2 master bedrooms. Put down paper pick-up phone. SAM GHADERI 531-6712

PRICELESS 3 BRIDGE VIEW \$245,000

Spectacular 4BR, 3.5BA tri-level Ranch on 1/3 acre. Built exclusively for the view. Enjoy city lights from every room. FDR, rumpus/fam rm, etc. SHERDELLA SIMS 287-9586

HILL AREA CONTEMPORARY VALUE! \$239,000

Spacious 4BR, 2.5BA home. Nearly new, tasteful eat-in kitchen, big family room, formal dining room. Fresh paint throughout. Owner motivated! STEVEN BIASATTI 339-6160 x239

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS \$237,000

Sellers will vacate 3rd bedroom, over 2200 sq ft home on 1/2 acre lot. Gourmet kitchen, large family room, & great nighbrhd. in San Leandro. Open Sunday EARLE SHENK 287-9590

GREAT CITY & BAY VIEWS, GREAT PRICE \$230,000

Where else can you find this great view for this price! 3BR, 1.5BA, deck off living room, eat-in kitchen, rumpus room. Don't miss this. Call today!

CHARLENE CLAYBAUGH 339-8400 x216

CHARLENE CLAYBAUGH 339-8400 x216

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CHARLENE CLAYBAUGH 339-8400 x216

CHARLENE CLAYBAUGH 339-8400 x216

Area Home Sales

ALAMEDA
1170 9th St. - \$124,000
3106 Adams St. - \$204,000
135 Avington Rd. - \$238,000
1037 Buena Vista - \$170,000
1031 C. Del Valle - \$163,000
2101 Central Ave. - \$106,000
7 Duarte Ct. - \$260,000
437 Dutchcap Ln. - \$158,000
1001 Eagle Ave. - \$135,000
1401 Fernside - \$153,500
3217 Fernside - \$500,000
2055 Lincoln Ave. - \$248,500
44 Mainland Dr. - \$192,000
1 Mirinda Ct. - \$317,000
200 Ratto Rd. - \$362,000
2820 San Jose Ave. - \$197,000
308 Santa Clara - \$165,000
12 Shepardson, 8 - \$206,000
652 Westline Dr. - \$275,000

ALBANY
1551 Beverly Pl. - \$270,000
944 Evelyn Ave. - \$259,500
1181 Santa Fe Ave. - \$125,000
730 Santa Fe Ave. - \$265,000

BERKELEY
1311 Bonita Ave. - \$265,000
1708 Channing Way - \$183,000
2739 Derby St. - \$325,000
1237 Glen Ave. - \$290,000
2443 Hilgard, 1 - \$147,000
1310 Kains Ave. - \$191,500
62 Northhampton - \$375,000
514 Parker St. - \$168,000
53 Plaza Dr. - \$536,000

80 Poplar St. - \$214,000
33 Roble Rd. - \$649,500
2131 Roosevelt - \$302,000
2135 Roosevelt - \$220,000
1733 Rose St. - \$290,000
1635 Scenic, 5 - \$216,000
2318 Spaulding - \$171,500
2201 Virginia St. - \$225,500
2854 Webster St. - \$360,000

EL CERRITO
545 Clayton Ave. - \$193,000
812 Elm St. - \$192,000
6925 Fairview - \$239,000
2044 Harper St. - \$414,000
2653 Monte Vista - \$210,500
1753 Walnut St. - \$285,500

EL SOBRANTE
5553 Cerro Norte - \$188,000
3962 El Monte Rd. - \$145,000
6490 Hillsdr. - \$175,000
3961 La Colina Rd. - \$140,000
556 Pebble Dr. - \$155,000
1210 Salida Way - \$142,500

EMERYVILLE
1000 63rd St. - \$130,000
6363 Christie, 1914 - \$121,000

KENSINGTON
263 Columbia Ave. - \$282,500
OAKLAND
7332 Arthur St. - \$130,500
4116 Bayo St. - \$109,000
6815 Bristol Dr. - \$455,000

5290 B'way Tr. 203 - \$130,000
3315 Brookdale - \$116,000
5646 Buena Vista - \$104,000
220 Caldecott, 111 - \$170,500
6004 Chaboly Ter. - \$318,000
6 Clarewood Mall - \$229,000
5824 Clover Dr. - \$285,000
4065 Coolidge Ave. - \$200,000
4908 Daisy St. - \$102,000
5035 Daisy St. - \$136,000
4249 Detroit Ave. - \$236,500
732 E. 18th St. - \$100,000
1520 E. 38th St. - \$185,000
4976 Fairfax Ave. - \$100,000
988 Franklin, 801 - \$153,000
2411 Fruitvale Ave. - \$104,000
8335 Golf Links - \$127,000
1968 Harrington - \$160,000
6127 Harwood Ave. - \$490,000
746 Hillgirt - \$167,000
4143 Howe St. - \$160,000
3801 Keller Ave. - \$112,500
427 Lagunitas Ave. - \$92,000
4035 Laurel Ave. - \$172,000
320 Lee St. - \$141,000
5356 Locksley Ave. - \$289,000
3107 Madeline St. - \$147,500
3401 Madera Ave. - \$141,000
3342 Magnolia St. - \$125,000
725 Mandana - \$285,000
2550 Maxwell Ave. - \$157,000
449 McAuley St. - \$176,000
489 McAuley St. - \$220,000
3138 Nicol Ave. - \$130,000
6040 Ocean View - \$466,500
4208 Redding St. - \$138,500
6848 Ridgewood Dr. - \$310,000

PIEDMONT
2 Cavendish Ln. - \$259,000
118 Greenbank - \$218,000
202 Linda Ave. - \$316,000
40 Maxwelton Rd. - \$315,000
1462 Trestle Glen - \$258,000

SAN LEANDRO
1688 159th Ave. - \$132,500
14645 Bethany St. - \$160,000
14308 Bradley St. - \$181,000
1358 Castr St. - \$158,000
282 Chumala St. - \$116,500
16669 Cowell St. - \$245,000
1333 Daily Dr. - \$229,500
1187 Duzmal Ave. - \$176,000
16607 Ehle St. - \$175,000
16027 Gramercy Dr. - \$200,000
15210 Laverne Rd. - \$163,000
15086 Norton St. - \$142,000
1211 San Jose St. - \$180,000
14229 Santiago Rd. - \$175,000
14009 Seagate Dr. - \$185,500
15129 Shining Star - \$329,500
15131 Shining Star - \$322,000
168 Stratford Ave. - \$145,000

ALBANY
TOTAL SALES: 4
LOWEST PRICE: \$125,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$270,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$229,875

BERKELEY
TOTAL SALES: 18
LOWEST PRICE: \$147,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$649,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$284,944

EL CERRITO
TOTAL SALES: 6
LOWEST PRICE: \$192,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$414,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$255,666

1015 Rose Ave. - \$180,000
29 Schooner Hill - \$330,000
9 Schooner Hill - \$369,000
230 Sheridan Rd. - \$410,000
4921 Stoneridge Ct. - \$310,000
7892 Sunkist Dr. - \$250,000
3254 Sylvan Ave. - \$165,500
2382 Tiffin Rd. - \$115,000
645 Valle Vista - \$236,000
1637 Vista St. - \$195,000
3704 West St. - \$140,000

PIEDMONT
SALES STATS BY CITY

ALAMEDA
TOTAL SALES: 19
LOWEST PRICE: \$106,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$500,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$219,684

SAN LEANDRO
TOTAL SALES: 51
LOWEST PRICE: \$92,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$490,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$201,392

PIEDMONT
TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST PRICE: \$218,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$316,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$273,200

SAN LEANDRO
TOTAL SALES: 21
LOWEST PRICE: \$116,500
HIGHEST PRICE: \$329,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$190,928

EL CERRITO
TOTAL SALES: 7
LOWEST PRICE: \$148,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$169,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$158,857

EL SOBRANTE
TOTAL SALES: 6
LOWEST PRICE: \$140,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$188,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$157,583

EMERYVILLE
TOTAL SALES: 2
LOWEST PRICE: \$121,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$130,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$125,500

KENSINGTON
TOTAL SALES: 1
PRICE: \$282,500

OAKLAND
TOTAL SALES: 51
LOWEST PRICE: \$92,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$490,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$201,392

PIEDMONT
TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST PRICE: \$218,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$316,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$273,200

SAN LEANDRO
TOTAL SALES: 21
LOWEST PRICE: \$116,500
HIGHEST PRICE: \$329,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$190,928

EL CERRITO
TOTAL SALES: 7
LOWEST PRICE: \$148,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$169,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$158,857

This list was recorded for publication by Hills Newspapers by REM Reports, Inc. of Walnut Creek which obtains monthly records from the county recorder's office. Neither company guarantees accuracy or completeness of the information. Sales prices are estimated based upon applicable county transfer taxes.

MASON-MCDUFFIE Welcome Home

OAKLAND / PIEDMONT

OUTSTANDING SF VIEW
Very special. European styling, fine finish work, level yard, 3BR, 2.5BA formal home
GEORGE MILLIORS 339-9290

THE BEST IN PIEDMONT
Are you looking for a large 4+BR, 4.5BA home in meticulous condition? Do you want the best value? This wonderful home is the best opportunity in Piedmont! CAROLE BERGER 428-0900, 655-6571

STATELY ENGLISH STYLE HOME
\$599,000
Located in Claremont Pines, Upper Rockridge, gorgeous newly constructed home. BILL BOZE 339-9290

PANORAMIC SF VIEW
\$569,000
Renovated ranch on large lot. Large open living room & dining room, mostly level yard. Pool, updated kitchen. GENE BOOMER 339-9290

PIEDMONT BEST BUY!
\$509,000
4BR, 2.5BA, with a nice private level yard. Must be sold. MR. BEN DAVID 339-9290

GORGEOUS ENGLISH STYLE
\$499,000
Beautifully restored 4BR, 2.5BA with yard on lovely tree lined street. Location & convenience is outstanding. ED MARSHALL 339-9290

ROCKRIDGE LOCATION
\$312,000
SF view & level yard. 2BR, 1.5BA. Great location. GEORGE MILLIORS 339-9290

ENJOY LEVEL LIVING!
\$298,000
Exercise along hiking trails & parklands nearby. 4BR, 2BA, family room off kitchen. Private backyard & pool. PAM CORNFORD 339-9290

MONTCLAIR CHARMER!
\$295,000
Completely remodeled home next to fire area. 3BR, 2BA, bay view with large lot. Must see! MR. BEN-DAVID 339-9290

SECLUDED SETTING IN THE TREES!
\$288,000
Peace, quiet, privacy & convenience. 3BR, 2BA and plus room on 2 levels with 2 large decks, warm redwood walls & fireplace. Soft light, creek, large lot, upgrades. JEAN AUKA 273-9311, 849-3711

YOUR PERFECT INCOME PROP!
\$257,500
2 cottages & 2 lofts - adorable! Off street parking & close to shops, restaurants, buses, Hwy 580 & 13! Diamond district neighborhood. LILLIE 526-5143, 524-7365

AFFORDABLE IN ROCKRIDGE
\$178,000
Close to everything. Wonderfully spacious condo in 3-unit building. D.A. HAMMOND 339-9290

GREAT INVESTOR 4-PLEX
\$155,000
All 3BR units. Easy to own, easy to rent. Great building, owned by same owner for 10 years. Price 4.5 times gross. DARRIN 834-2010

NORTH OAKLAND HOME
\$155,000
3BR with spacious rooms. Nice condition throughout! Updated kitchen, formal dining room. Basement. Fireplace. JIM HEDGES 287-9001, 848-6222

FRUIT TO BARE!!
\$119,000
Good area & stable neighbors. 2BR, 1BA, utility room for washer/dryer, great back yard with variety of fruit trees. Must see. Motivated seller. PATSY BUHLER 834-2010

OAK KNOLL HEIGHTS
\$119,000
Lovely, spacious 2BR, 2BA condo with fireplace, pool and spa. \$2,380 down & \$855/month. CARR 845-0200, 287-9133

LEONA HEIGHTS AT ITS BEST
\$149,500
Old world charm, arched doorways, light & airy, hwd floors, "neat as a pin" landscaping, veg garden in back, garden shed, easy commute. NORINE SHIMA 845-0200

ALBANY
(\$10) 524-2526
BERKELEY
(\$10) 845-0200
BERKELEY NORTH
(\$10) 849-3711
CLAREMONT
(\$10) 845-0211
EL CERRITO
(\$10) 527-9800

GRAND LAKE
(\$10) 834-2010
KENSINGTON
(\$10) 526-5143
MONTCLAIR
(\$10) 339-9290
PIEDMONT
(\$10) 428-0900
RE/MAX
The Home Experts
279-0565

Find Us on the Internet at: <http://www.mm4re.com>

OAKLAND / PIEDMONT

SELLER WOULD LIKE AN OFFER
\$109,500
This 2BR, 2BA condo is the best price in Oakland. It comes with a formal dining room & a fireplace in living room. Deck overlooks a pretty tree-lined street. GAYNELL ESTLE 834-2010

THE ENCHANTED BELLAMY
\$569,000
Newly remodeled from top to toe! This 3-story 5BR, 4BA home is unlike anything on the market today. Complete with fabulous bay view. SAM REINDLER 527-9800

THOUSAND OAKS!
\$479,000
SF Bay & East bay views from 5BR, 3BA home with wooded yard. Remodeled kitchen, decks on all levels & lots of storage space. Solar panels & hot tub. JACK LEBEAU 849-3711, 273-9307

NORTH BERKELEY JEWEL
\$429,000
Gracious 2-story traditional 3+BR, 2BA in popular area near Monterey Market. Nice wainscoting & built-ins. JIM HEDGES 287-9001, 848-6222

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4PM!
\$369,000
Lovely restored Victorian with romantic details! Deep yard for gardening! A charming combination of old & new! CAROL JEKABSON 849-3711, 527-3494

UPDATED EDWARDIAN!
\$159,500
Spacious 4BR home with new kitchen and baths. Assurable loan. Built-ins. Beamed ceilings, fireplace. South Berkeley's best buy! Ideal starter. MARK WILSON 273-9333

LIGHT & BRIGHT
\$129,000
Mediterranean condo with charming deck and extra storage, garage and office! Holiday value! CAROL JEKABSON 849-3711, 527-3494

WEDDING DAY!
\$159,000
Very neat and sunny 4BR, 2BA beautiful master suite. Nicely located! Close to school and transportation. Motivated seller. Please call Anna for details. ANNA LEI 527-9800, 273-9311

ESCAPE THE BIG CITY
\$172,500
To a special 14-year custom retreat in Crockett. Great views, gourmet kitchen, high ceilings in living room, 3BR, 2BA, light & airy, nice decks, jacuzzi spa, & more. LLOYD JUNG 526-5143, 232-9699

PRAIRIE PINOLE TOWNHOUSE
\$156,500
1,651 sq. ft. of living space, 2 master suites, big kitchen, high ceilings in living room, 2-car garage, peaceful views, built in 1985, nice deck, great location! Must see! LLOYD JUNG 526-5143, 232-9699

WATERFRONT
\$156,500
Brand new 4,500 sq. ft. home with bay view on 1+ acre lot. 4BR, 4.5BA, formal dining and more. Horse stable possible. MR. BEN-DAVID 339-9290

CASTRO VALLEY
\$156,500
NW ELEGANT CONTEMPORARY
\$869,000
Brand new 4,500 sq. ft. home with bay view on 1+ acre lot. 4BR, 4.5BA, formal dining and more. Horse stable possible. MR. BEN-DAVID 339-9290

ORINDA
\$369,000
ORINDA IN BERKELEY HILLS
\$369,000
Charming home on big level lot at top of El Toyon in Orinda. Easy commute to Berkeley/Oakland. Orinda schools & fog free sunbelt. 254-0440

ORINDA
\$369,000
The Home For The Holidays!

A Home For The Holidays!



This delightful English Tudor family home was built in 1910 in the prestigious area of Berkeley known as Claremont Court. Designed by architect Olin S. Grove, the home is sited on a quiet, sunny cul-de-sac overlooking Monkey Island. A beautiful new kitchen was installed approximately 15 years ago by Custom Kitchens.

3+ bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths and 2 fireplaces.

\$699,000

JT WARD
REALTORS SINCE 1947
2 Tunnel Road • Berkeley • CA 94705

WEST COUNTY

GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE VIEW!
\$348,500
Price reduced! Remodeled 4BR, 3BA, 2,600 sq ft, big kitchen, family room, 2-car garage, hwd floors & much more! Great location. Walk to Arlington Park. Hurry, won't last! LLOYD JUNG 526-5143, 232-9699

CLEAN AS A WHISTLE!
\$200,000
Very neat and sunny 4BR, 2BA beautiful master suite. Nicely located! Close to school and transportation. Motivated seller. Please call Anna for details. ANNA LEI 527-9800, 273-9311

SUPERIOR PINOLE TOWNHOUSE
\$156,500
1,651 sq. ft. of living space, 2 master suites, big kitchen, high ceilings in living room, 2-car garage, peaceful views, built in 1985, nice deck, great location! Must see! LLOYD JUNG 526-5143, 232-9699

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PI



by Buzz Bertolero

Time is approaching to spray fruit trees

gus shows up in the spring as purple leaf spots that turn brown with the center falling out. The multiholed leaf looks like it has been peppered by a shotgun. The February application targets Peach leaf Curl, that distorts the foliage.

Q: Some years ago I heard there was something that could be done to retard the growth of those little orange balls on Gingkoes. We need something that will not harm our dog. Do you know the name of this product?

A. The orange balls produced by Gingkoes are the seed pods that develop after the flower is pollinated and fertilized. The production of seed is the final stage in the life cycle of seed bearing plants. Gingkoes flower in the spring but most people never see them as they are small and not showy.

Florel Fruit Eliminator will abort the flower so fertilization never takes place. Without the fertilization the seed pods can't form. You would apply three ounces of Florel per gallon of water when the tree is

in full bloom. Florel doesn't pose a problem to animals but I would keep them off the area until it's dry.

Q: I have a Pistachio Tree that produced about a quart of nuts this year. I tried drying some in my harvest dehydrator and the outer skin peeled off nicely. Some of the nuts cracked open but most didn't. Also, some had a soft mess inside. When do we harvest the nuts and how? Do they ripen at different intervals or are they all picked at once?

A. Lucky you on your harvest. The Bay Area is not noted on being Pistachio country. In most of the areas, the summer is not hot enough for the nuts to ripen at all. Pistachio's are ripe when the hulls become fairly loose after the long, hot summer. There is no exact date given for ripening, so you will have to use some trial and error. I would not expect them to be ripe before Labor Day. Normally, the nuts are shaken from the tree and you would remove the hulls soon after harvesting. Dip the hulled nuts in water to moisten the shell and spread them in the sun to dry, may of the shells will split. You could also use your dehydrator.

Pistachios can be stored in plastic bags for 4-6 weeks in the refrigerator or you can freeze them and they will last for several months.

Listen to Buzz Bertolero, the Dirt Gardener, Saturdays, 6-8 a.m., on KNBR 68, "The Sports and Gardening Leader." His e-mail address is dirtgarden@aol.com. Visit his web site: www.dirtgarden.com.

Real estate data available

Localized California housing market data is provided to C.A.R. by Sacramento-based Transamerica Information Management Services and its MetroScan(TM) real estate service. Transamerica Information Management Services is a leading provider of real property information for real estate professionals. For more information about

Transamerica's real estate-related products and services, call (800) 825-7226.

The California Association of Realtors (<http://www.car.org>) is one of the largest state trade associations in the United States, with nearly 100,000 members dedicated to the advancement of professionalism in real estate.

Events

The Events Calendar does not accept for-profit listings. Announcements for these events can be made in our classified section by calling 339-8777. Listings are made on a space available basis.

The Berkeley Artisans 1996 free self-guided tour *Holiday Open Studios* continues on Saturdays and Sundays 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. through December 22. Over 100 artists and craftspeople at 31 studio buildings throughout South and West Berkeley are participating, showing functional and decorative ceramics, art furniture, blown glass, sculpture, dolls, jewelry, textiles and wearable art. All work is hand-crafted and many pieces are one-of-a-kind. Admission is free. Artisan's maps are available at 1250 Addison St., #214 in Berkeley. Call 845-2612 for other park distribution points.

The East Bay Chapter of the Women's Council of Realtors holds its annual Inaugural Luncheon 11:30 a.m., Fri. Dec. 13 at the Silver Dragon Restaurant, 835 Webster St., Oakland. The \$25 ticket must be prepaid. RSVP requested. Call Ramona Chang 482-3800

The Building Education Center (BEC) is the place to plan your dream home or to start turning your home into a dream. On Sun., Dec 15 BEC offers *Faux Finishes: Surface Transformation with Paint and Cabinet Refacing*. Call BEC at 525-7610 for more information.

The City of Oakland invites you to its *Preservation Park Holiday*

Stroll, 10 a.m. Sat., Dec. 14. Enjoy the 16 elegantly restored 19th-century homes. Meet floral designer Sharon Kidder and learn her secrets for creating unique door wreaths and other exterior home decorations. Meet at the fountain in the middle of the park. Enter the park at Martin Luther King, Jr. Way between 12th and 14th streets. This free tour will last about one and one half hours. Reservations are recommended but not required. Call 238-3234

Northbrae Properties sponsors the *Women's Daytime Drop-in Center's Fifth Annual Holiday Gift Sale*, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sat. and Sun. Dec. 14 and 15 at 1600 Hopkins St., Berkeley, one block from the Monterey Market. Enjoy designer Cameron Chardoul's exciting collection of jewelry, ornaments refashioned from Old World jewels and artifacts. Master fountain-maker Robert Ukena-Edney whose hand made water fountains can accommodate cut flowers. For more information or for directions to the sale call Northbrae Properties at 526-4336.

PHD Designs announces their *Holiday Extravaganza* 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sat and Sun at the Flower pat. 1924 1/2 35th Ave., Oakland. Join the PHD design group along with other professional designers as they showcase unique and original Christmas gifts and holiday decorating ideas. Designers will share their ideas offering gift items including contemporary and ethnic arts and crafts, ornate home decora-

tions and enchanting signs. Call Phyllis Johnson 3488 for more information.

Wausau Mortgage Co. announces Charles Patton 203(k) mortgage workshop *Bilitate for Profit or Equity Proven Product*, The which will show you how to 203(k) loan program to renovate and resell property short time, is held biweekly (800) 801-1320, ext. 240 places.

A free *First-Time Home Seminar*, sponsored by Realty and Mortgage Network, Solano Ave., Berkeley is first Wed. of each month. Find out about first-time home programs, get tips from a Red Oak agent on how to offer, negotiate the best deal, home inspections, learn contingencies that may protect you from adverse conditions, and it may be more economical rather than to rent. Get pre-qualified and receive a listing of homes in your price range. Registrations are required. Call Russ at 526-6554 to register or for information.

The Friends of the Latin American Library hold regular at the Latin American Library, Fruitvale Ave., Oakland. Just support the library as it marks its 30th year of service. For more information call the library at 5620.

YOUR WEEKEND GUIDE OPEN HOMES

OAKLAND Open Sunday 2-4:30 pm

132 BEECHWOOD, Claremont Pines 4bd/4b, spectacular nw villa \$1,049,000 Mason-McDuffie 428-0900, Mary Hanna 644-5432

171 ALPINE TER, Upper Rockridge 4/4+, new classic Med w/views \$1,000,000 Pacific Union, Dick Cohen 339-6460

1704 BROADWAY TER, Montclair 4bd/4ba, courtly entry, view \$899,000 Pacific Union, Vicki Woodhead 339-6460

6258 RUTHLAND RD, Montclair 3+bd/2+ba, 3/4+acre, SF/GG views \$749,000 Pacific Union, Ann Nichols 339-6460

5900 ACACIA, 5bd/3 1/2ba, Claremont Pines, grt views \$689,000 Gadsby & Associates, Ingrid 748-5300 **OPEN SUNDAY 1:30-4:00**

6069 GLENARMS DR, Montclair new 4bd/3 1/2ba, views! lg lot \$669,000 The GRUBB Company, Marilyn Watson 339-0400

6240 ACACIA, Rockridge 4bd/3+ba, grace & style, holiday presence \$599,000 Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Erik Johnson 869-4246

6522 ASCOT DR, P. Pines, 3+bd/2ba new Med, canyon setting \$599,000 Better Homes, Ed Linderer 339-8400

6051 GLENARMS, New Arts & Crafts, hdws, kit/fam rm, landscaped \$589,000 Coldwell Banker, James Duffy 339-1174

6685 SHEPHERD CANYON, 4bd/3 1/2ba redwood custom 3795 sq ft \$579,000 Better Homes, Mel Copland 339-8400

6066 ASPINWALL, Great 9 rm Spanish Medi 4 1/2, hdwd & tile firs \$540,000 Wells & Bennett, Jackie Carter 531-7000

2177 MANZANITA DR, Montclair 4bd/3 1/2ba, new listing, bay view \$499,000 Better Homes, Hal Castle 339-9778 **OPEN SUNDAY 1:30-4:30**

2710 MOUNTAIN GATE, European charm, gardens, 4+bd, ofc, wkshp \$455,000 Coldwell Banker, Joan Alford 339-1174

50 STARVIEW, Hiller 2 1/2 new contemporary townhome, hdws \$449,000 Coldwell Banker, Ollie Hammerle 339-1174

6516 HEATHER RIDGE, Montclair nwer custom 3bd/2+b, amenities \$435,000 Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Bob Randall 869-4242

249 SHERIDAN RD, Up Rockridge, 3bd/3 1/2ba, 2 mstr suites, 2 frpl \$429,000 Better Homes, Nahid Nassira 530-5770

7261 SAYRE DR, Montclair new 4bd/3ba custom, private, fenced yd \$395,000 Pacific Union, Wendy Gardner 339-6460

38 WINDWARD, State of the art 3 1/2%, enclosed deck, hot tub, 2 frpl \$389,500 Coldwell Banker, Ollie Hammerle 339-1174

61256125 ASPINWALL RD, Montclair, 4/4, patio, decks, nrby village \$365,000 The GRUBB Company, Judy Calis 339-0400

6666 CHARING CROSS, Hiller, lg unit w/loft +office space, must see \$345,000 Coldwell Banker, Ollie Hammerle 339-1174

5671 CABOT DR, Montclair 5bd/5ba, unique & spacious \$339,750 Better Homes, Rachel Baller 530-3860

211 DUNCAN WAY, Montclair 4+bd/3ba, private creekside setting \$339,000 Pacific Union, Donna DeBardi 339-6460

6480 OAKWOOD DR, Montclair 4bd/3ba, family room, canyon views \$339,000 Pacific Union, Tom Anthony 339-6460

401 HILLER DR, Cheerful 3 1/2% townhome, lft, frpl, view of canyon \$335,000 Coldwell Banker, Ollie Hammerle 339-1174

11251 LOCHARD, 4bd/2 1/2ba, Oakland Hills, elegant, fab view \$329,900 Mason-McDuffie 834-2010, Heidi Tugge 531-4554

8211 SKYLINE, Montclair 3bd/2 1/2ba, best opportunity for nw constr \$309,000 Mason-McDuffie 428-0900, Elisabeth Belle 644-5452

6371 DORAN DR, 3bd/2ba, price slashed on this lovely home \$309,000 Mason-McDuffie 834-2010, Demetrius Wilson 869-3740

935 WARFIELD, New listing! 2-story trad, FDR, fam rm, deck, yd \$302,000 Coldwell Banker, Ruby Ng 339-1174

1387 BARROWS RD, Crocker 3bd/1+ba Cape Cod, upgraded kitchn \$299,000 Pacific Union, Donna Costella 339-6460

5677 CABOT DR, Montclair 3bd/2ba, one of a kind! close-in \$299,000 Better Homes, Rachel Baller 530-3860

6627 HEARTWOOD Dr Montclair charmer, 2bd, nearly level-in; deck \$295,000 bay vw +studio w/sep entry. Owner 531-8382. Will Cooperate. SAT & SUN 1-4

ALBANY Open Sunday

1041 POMONA AVENUE, Super clean 2bd/1ba, huge lot, recently refurbished. Nunes R.E. Group 685-8989 **OPEN SAT & SUN**

BERKELEY Open Sunday 2-4:30 pm

2829 REGENT, New listing! elegant 3 1/2+/3 1/2 Elmwood craftsman Red Oak Realty 527-3387 **X109 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4**

867 ARLINGTON AVE, 4bd/3b updated Spanish Med, patio, garden \$265,000 Pacific Union, Joanna Gould 339-6460

1313 HENRY ST, Berkeley 3+bd/2 1/2ba Coldwell Banker, Linda Wolan 486-1495

2043 LINCOLN, Lovely restored Victorian, details, charm, deep yd Mason-McDuffie, Carol Jakobson 527-3494/529-3711 **OPEN SUNDAY 1-4**

1305 HENRY ST, 3 new twrnhms, 2 & 3bd, quality, decks, yards Pacific Union, Patty Scott 339-6460

1510 MCGEE AVE, 3/2+, walk Monterey Mkt & BART, den & rumpus Pacific Union, Rich Gould 339-6460

1056 EUCLID AVE, Special 2bd/1ba home in great condition! Templeton Company, Leslie Avant 652-2133 **X122 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4**

2330 10th St, 2bd/1ba level-in condo w/big garden, feels like a home Better Homes, Jim Schubert 436-6683

EL CERRITO Open Sunday

1005 EVERETT AVE, Adorable pristine starter, very special, move in! Templeton Company, Susie Schevill 652-2133 **X144 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4**

EMERYVILLE Open Sunday

4300 HORTON #10, 1+bd/1+ba beautiful wareh conversion, extras Red Oak Realty 527-3387 **X105 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4**

KENSINGTON Open Sunday

641 COVENTRY, Kensington 4bd/3ba Coldwell Banker, Diana Kay 486-1495 **OPEN SUNDAY 2-4**

PIEDMONT Open Sunday 2-4:30 pm

333 HAMPTON RD, Superb design! EZ flow flr plan, 4/3, private The GRUBB Company, Marion Schwartz 339-0400

9 CRAIG AVE, 5bd/3+ba, spacious, elegant, gourmet kitchen Mason-McDuffie 428-0900, Margaret Wade 644-5445

1218 ASHMOULD, Classic Med, hdws, details, move in condition! The GRUBB Company, Linda McClain 339-0400

235 LASALLE AVE, Beautiful 5/3 Mediterranean, level out to garden The GRUBB Company, Sheila Gallagher 339-0400

120 ESTATES, Reduced to sell!! 4bd/2 1/2ba Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Yehuda Ben-David 869-4205

308 SCENIC AVE, Fab piano view! 4bd/2ba, remod kit, lg deck The GRUBB Company, Elizabeth Dickson 339-0400

159 ST JAMES DR, 3bd/3ba, renovated, FDR, family room Pacific Union, Sally Morrison 339-6460

SAN LEANDRO Open Sunday

2240 BENEDICT DR, Lovely 3bd/2ba, Bay-O-Vista, one level Gadsby & Associates, Bill 748-5300 **OPEN SUNDAY 1:30-4:00**

5421 ROBERTS, Maxwell Park 2bd/1ba cute home, don't pay rent! \$95,000 Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Felicia Owens 869-4217 **OPEN SUNDAY 1-4**

To list your open home call 339-4046

To place a listing in the Open Home Guide, please call 339-4046.

DEADLINE: Tuesday, 5:00 p.m.

Four tales may not screenplay make

Renata Polt

In case you suspect that *Three or Only One Death*, a new film by Chilean-born filmmaker Raul Ruiz, is anything like *Our Weddings and a Funeral*, just right now. Titles are cheap and copyrightable; that goes double for film titles.

Look pages and pages of notes while watching "Four Lives" and I don't get it. It's a compilation of our stories (two based on tales of Nathaniel Hawthorne, of all people), each of them starring Marcello Mastroianni and linked in mysterious ways. The film is billed as a comedy, but what comedy it is dark, twisted, and surreal, the construction of the mystery/psychological drama, if a label can be called for.

In the first episode, one of the derived from Hawthorne, a man is put to buy aspirin, meets a stranger (Mastroianni) who persuades him to listen to his and ends up against his will. The places with the stranger who, eventually, has spent the past 20 years sharing an apartment with him, which may in fact be baby girls. That part has nothing to do with Hawthorne.

In the next segment, Mastroianni plays a business executive. As in the other segments, everyone drinks lots of champagne and the apartments are furnished with many mirrors.

This episode is intended to show the connections among them all and to tie them together. However, it's a conclusion that concludes nothing.

It does, though, contain one of the film's best lines, when Mastroianni says, "Excuse me — this is all too much for me!" Quite so.

"Four Lives" opens Dec. 20 at San Francisco's Lumiere Theatre and Berkeley's Arts, and the only reason I've reviewed it so early—or at all—is that the Christmas films that will be dumped on us all at once haven't yet been screened.

Movie review

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listen to his and ends up against his will. The places with the stranger who, eventually, has spent the past 20 years sharing an apartment with him, which may in fact be baby girls. That part has nothing to do with Hawthorne.

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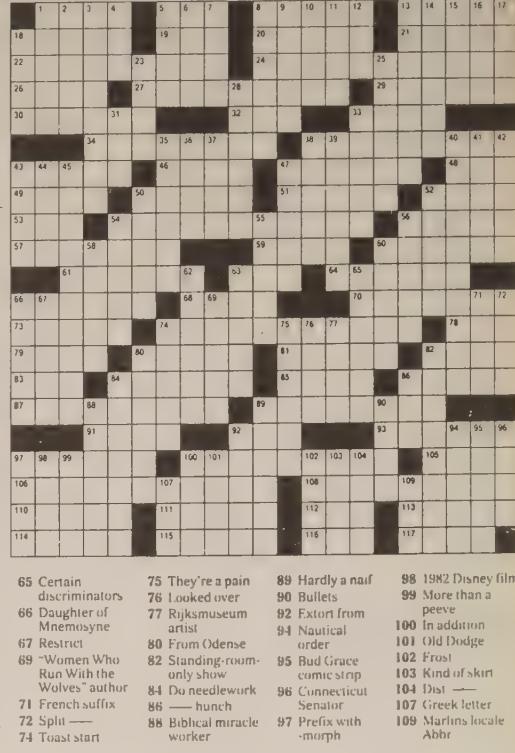
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New York Times Magazine Puzzle

INNER PEACE

BY A. J. SANTORA / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

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76 Looked over

77 Rijksmuseum artist

78 Hardly a nail

79 More than a peev

80 From Odysseus

81 Nautical order

82 Standing-round only show

83 Bud Grace comic strip

84 Connecticut Senator

85 Prefix with -morph

86 Dist —

87 Greek letter

88 Marlins locale Abbr

Known as SSS, the disability is a visual perception problem that prevents an estimated 10 to 12 percent of the population from being able to learn or read efficiently.

Featured recently on the "Solutions" segment of ABC news with Peter Jennings, it was revealed that over 20 million Americans are affected with the syndrome.

For some afflicted with SSS, a page of text may take on "the river effect" — words crammed together suddenly part, causing patterns of distracting whiteness running down the page.

For others, the "see-saw effect" makes the printed words jagged and zig-zagged while the "halo" effect appears to lift words off the page.

Oakland resident Connie Hosemann is a textbook case.

The probate attorney, who works downtown, has been wearing smoky-blue Irlen filters since 1989.

The color helps speed up light waves to the brain, resulting in better perception for the reader.

Two local licensed counselors and educational consultants who are trained Irlen screeners, Gail Kinney.

Patented in 1990 as "Irlen Filters," by Helen Irlen, an educational psychologist in Long Beach, the overlays come in a rainbow of colors and can be used as lenses on a pair of glasses.

The color helps speed up light waves to the brain, resulting in better perception for the reader.

Two local licensed counselors and educational consultants who are trained Irlen screeners, Gail Kinney.

Although word about the syndrome has spread significantly in the past few years, most school districts are not adept at a thorough form of testing, in part because of the cost.

Kinney-Weld works at both Hayward and Richmond public school districts trying to troubleshoot several learning disabilities. In the Douglas Unified School District in Arizona, 50 percent of underachieving school children were diagnosed with SSS.

Kinney-Weld thinks that the expense and time involved in screening and evaluating may be a deterrent to some school districts — although more than 2,000 school districts in the country use the Irlen Screening Method according to the Long Beach institute.

The method is two-fold, consisting of a professional introducing the candidate to different colors over text with the next step going to an Irlen diagnostician like Cole.

The expense of screening can cost as much as \$125 while evaluations and lab work for lenses are about \$400. Hayward Unified has just completed a training for school psychologists and some Special Education teachers.

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Jolly 'O Saint Nick

Santa will be in residence at the El Cerrito Plaza every Tuesday and Saturday through December 21. His hours of residence are: Tuesdays 11 to 3 • Saturday 10 to 5

This will also be the site for the Fire Fighters Toy Program. A toy or a \$5 cash donation will entitle all children under the age of 12 to a free picture with Santa.

Santa's Village

Visit Santa's Village daily 10 to 5
except Tuesdays 11 to 3

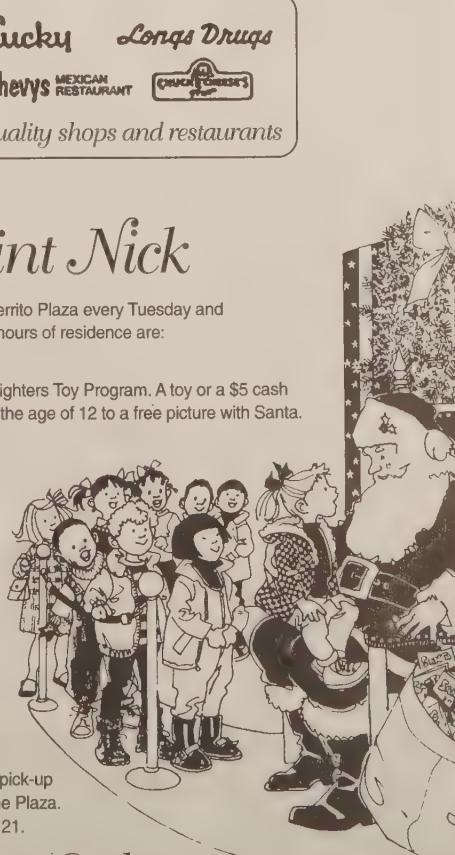
Santa's Mailbox

Mail a letter to Santa at his P.O. Box located in Santa's Village. Letters will be answered by Santa.

Christmas Coloring Contest

The El Cerrito Plaza is also having a Christmas Coloring Contest. Please pick-up entries at any shop or restaurant in the Plaza. Prizes will be awarded on December 21.

San Pablo Ave. at Carlson



CLASSIFIED

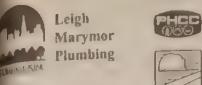
A • Hills Newspapers • December 10/12, 1996

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Public Notices

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

is registered by the following owner:

Holly A. Schrot, 2012 De Vista Ct., Walnut

Creek, CA 94595

Winni Sonnenschein, 5355 Broadway, Oak-

land, CA 94618

This business is conducted by a General Part-

nership

The registrant commenced to transact business

under the fictitious business name listed above on

November 7, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Con-

tra Costa County on November 7, 1996

The Journal November 21, 28, December 5, 12,

1996

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 96-6524

The Name of the Business:

Osmose, Development 3160 Oak Rd. #202,

Walnut Creek, CA 94596

is registered by the following owner:

Lon Baker, 3160 Oak Rd #202, Walnut Creek,

CA 94596

Wellie Wickander, 6956 Lake Dr. #E, Oak-

land, CA 94608

Josephine Kaiser, 4124 Wilson Lane, CA Concord,

CA 94610

This business is conducted by a General Part-

nership

The registrant commenced to transact business

under the fictitious business name listed above on

October 24, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Con-

tra Costa County on October 21, 1996

The Journal November 21, 28, December 5, 12,

1996

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 96-6520

The Name of the Business:

Just Handcrafts & Bandanas, 1148 Williams Dr.,

Hercules, CA 94547

is registered by the following owner:

Gerald Hemingway, Sr., 1148 Williams Dr.,

Hercules, CA 94547

This business is conducted by an Individual

The registrant commenced to transact business

under the fictitious business name listed above on

October 23, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Con-

tra Costa County on October 23, 1996

The Journal November 21, 28, December 5, 12,

1996

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 96-6522

The Name of the Business:

Just Petz, 2201 Tacoma Ave., Martinez, CA

94552

is registered by the following owner:

Jacqueline Ivonne, 2201 Tacoma Ave., Martinez, CA

94552

This business is conducted by an Individual

The registrant commenced to transact business

under the fictitious business name listed above on

October 23, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Con-

tra Costa County on October 23, 1996

The Journal November 21, 28, December 5, 12,

1996

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 96-6525

The Name of the Business:

Accurate Tax & Accounting Service, 47 Mesa Vista Ct., San Ramon, CA 94583

is registered by the following owner:

Robert A. Pacholski, 47 Mesa Vista Ct., San

Ramon, CA 94583

This business is conducted by an Individual

The registrant commenced to transact business

under the fictitious business name listed above on

October 23, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Con-

tra Costa County on October 23, 1996

The Journal November 21, 28, December 5, 12,

1996

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 96-6527

The Name of the Business:

Accurate Tax & Accounting Pros, 4300 Clayton Road,

Suite B, Concord, CA 94520

is registered by the following owner:

Howard P. Ebrahim, 2180 Springwater Dr.,

Fremont, CA 94536

This business is conducted by an Individual

The registrant commenced to transact business

under the fictitious business name listed above on

November 18, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Con-

tra Costa County on November 18, 1996

The Journal November 21, 28, December 5, 12,

1996

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 96-6528

The Name of the Business:

Accurate Tax & Accounting Service, 47 Mesa Vista Ct., San Ramon, CA 94583

is registered by the following owner:

Robert A. Pacholski, 47 Mesa Vista Ct., San

Ramon, CA 94583

This business is conducted by an Individual

The registrant commenced to transact business

under the fictitious business name listed above on

November 18, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Con-

tra Costa County on November 18, 1996

The Journal November 21, 28, December 5, 12,

1996

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 96-6529

The Name of the Business:

Accurate Tax & Accounting Service, 4300 Clayton Road,

Suite B, Concord, CA 94520

is registered by the following owner:

Howard P. Ebrahim, 2180 Springwater Dr.,

Fremont, CA 94536

This business is conducted by an Individual

The registrant commenced to transact business

under the fictitious business name listed above on

November 18, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Con-

tra Costa County on November 18, 1996

The Journal November 21, 28, December 5, 12,

1996

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 96-6530

The Name of the Business:

Accurate Tax & Accounting Service, 4300 Clayton Road,

Suite B, Concord, CA 94520

is registered by the following owner:

Howard P. Ebrahim, 2180 Springwater Dr.,

Fremont, CA 94536

This business is conducted by an Individual

The registrant commenced to transact business

under the fictitious business name listed above on

November 18, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Con-

tra Costa County on November 18, 1996

The Journal November 21, 28, December 5, 12,

1996

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 96-6531

The Name of the Business:

Accurate Tax & Accounting Service, 4300 Clayton Road,

Suite B, Concord, CA 94520

is registered by the following owner:

Howard P. Ebrahim, 2180 Springwater Dr.,

Fremont, CA 94536

This business is conducted by an Individual

The registrant commenced to transact business

under the fictitious business name listed above on

November 18, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Con-

tra Costa County on November 18, 1996

The Journal November 21, 28, December 5, 12,

1996

Goings On

Continued from page 4

p.m. on Dec. 12, 14, 21, 26, 28 and on Monday 23 at 8. 204-8901.

Public Notices

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 96-7091

The Name of the Business:

Micro Design, 3349 Morett Dr., Concord, CA 94519

Is registered by the following owners:

Terriena Maureen Davidson, 3349 Morett Dr., Concord, CA 94519

Charles Thomas Davidson, 3349 Morett Dr., Concord, CA 94519

This business is conducted by Individuals - Husband and Wife

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on November 12, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 12, 1996

The Journal December 12, 19, 26, 1996, January 2, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 96-7091

The Name of the Business:

Jan King, 772 Santa Maria Rd., El Sobrante, CA 94805

Is registered by the following owners:

Manuel J. Perez, 772 Santa Maria Rd., El Sobrante, CA 94805

Barro C. Torres, 772 Santa Maria Rd., El Sobrante, CA 94803

This business is conducted by co-partners

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on November 12, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 15, 1996

The Journal December 12, 19, 26, 1996, January 2, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 96-6956

The Name of the Business:

Contra Costa Auto Salvage, Inc., 1731 Main Street, Oakley, CA 94561

Is registered by the following owner:

Contra Costa Auto Salvage, Inc.

State of incorporation: California

This business is conducted by a Corporation

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on October 1, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 12, 1996

The Journal December 12, 19, 26, 1996, January 2, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 96-6956

The Name of the Business:

OTTO-REX Management, 1731 Main St., Oakley, CA 94561

Is registered by the following owners:

Gary Lee Merchant, 1749 Cedar Ct., Oakley, CA 94561

Edward Alan Merchant, 1160 Woodmen Dr., Oakley, CA 94561

This business is conducted by a General Partnership

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on November 12, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 12, 1996

The Journal December 12, 19, 26, 1996, January 2, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 96-7046

The Name of the Business:

Chubby's Diner #210, 21001 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Suite E-5, San Ramon, CA 94583

Is registered by the following owners:

Man Sallimpour, 3917 Alta Vista Circle, Pittsburgh, CA 94565

Jennifer Sallimpour, 3917 Alta Vista Circle, Pittsburgh, CA 94565

This business is conducted by a Individuals - Husband and Wife

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on November 14, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 14, 1996

The Journal December 12, 19, 26, 1996, January 2, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 96-6994

The Name of the Business:

Baskin - Robbins #2054, 4493 Century Blvd., Pittsburgh, CA 94565

Is registered by the following owner:

Sukpran Gill, 2061 Grant St., #205, Concord, CA 94520

This business is conducted by an Individual

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on November 13, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 13, 1996

The Journal December 12, 19, 26, 1996, January 2, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 96-7186

The Name of the Business:

Agepe Youth Center, 2034 Heatherwood Drive, P O Box 1461, Pittsburgh, CA 94565

Is registered by the following owners:

Yvette Kae Jackson, 2034 Heatherwood Dr., Pittsburgh, CA 94565

Priscilla Frantzen Chambee, 1175 Jewett Ave., Pittsburgh, CA 94565

This business is conducted by a non-profit organization

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on November 14, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 20, 1996

The Journal December 12, 19, 26, 1996, January 2, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 96-7079

The Name of the Business:

Community Care Management, 22 Cutting Ct., Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Is registered by the following owner:

Dennis F. Calano, 22 Cutting Ct., Walnut Creek, CA 94596

This business is conducted by a General Partnership

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on November 15, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 15, 1996

The Journal December 12, 19, 26, 1996, January 2, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 96-7320

The Name of the Business:

New Horizons Realty, 2337 Hilliard Circle, Antioch, CA 94509

Is registered by the following owner:

Amante Asuncion, 2337 Hilliard Circle, Antioch, CA 94509

This business is conducted by an Individual

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on December 2, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on December 2, 1996

The Journal December 12, 19, 26, 1996, January 2, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 96-7297

The Name of the Business:

Prototech, 1620 Olive Ave., Richmond, CA 94805

Is registered by the following owner:

Charles A. Belanger, III, 1620 Olive Ave., Richmond, CA 94805

This business is conducted by an Individual

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on November 27, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 27, 1996

The Journal December 12, 19, 26, 1996, January 2, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 96-7309

The Name of the Business:

AdvantageTek, 1111 James Donlon Blvd. #2102, Antioch, CA 94509

Is registered by the following owner:

Andrea Zarko Vujcevic, 1111 James Donlon Blvd. #2102, Antioch, CA 94509

This business is conducted by an individual

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on November 27, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 27, 1996

The Journal December 12, 19, 26, 1996, January 2, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 96-7309

The Name of the Business:

AdvantageTek, 1111 James Donlon Blvd. #2102, Antioch, CA 94509

Is registered by the following owner:

Andrea Zarko Vujcevic, 1111 James Donlon Blvd. #2102, Antioch, CA 94509

This business is conducted by an individual

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on November 27, 1996

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 27, 1996

The Journal December 12, 19, 26, 1996, January 2, 1997.

La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave. 849-2215. Dec. 12, 13, 14: Culture Clash at 8 p.m. and 9:15 p.m.

Magic with Zappa the Magician from 11 a.m. to noon at the Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave.

Sacred and Profane Chamber Chorus presents A Holiday Tapestry of A Capella Song on Dec. 13 at 8 p.m. and Dec. 15 at 7 p.m. at St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave. At the door: \$14/\$11 seniors, students. In advance: \$12/\$9 seniors, students. 524-3611.

Starry Plough, 3101 Shattuck Ave. 841-2082. Dec. 12: Rule of Thumb, Sleeping Dogs Lie. \$3.

Yoshi's, 6030 Claremont Ave., Oakland. 652-9200. All shows at 8 and 10 p.m. Through Dec. 15: Richard Elliot. \$15 Wed., Thurs. \$22 Fri., Sat., Sun.

Dec. 16: Kombo Kwela. \$8/ JIF members free. Dec. 17: Berkeley's Young Musician Program Benefit featuring Craig Handy and Friends. \$22. \$50.

Presbyterian Women in St. John's Presbyterians Church, 2727 College Ave., meet Dec. 18-22: Charles Brown. \$15 Wed.

Open Mon.—Fri. from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30—5:30 p.m. Exclusively by appointment on weekends.

days: Eat bagels and talk with Rabbi Ronai at noon. Time TBA: Hebrew speaking session. 843-3833.

Sri Chinmoy Meditation Centre offers free meditation workshops in South Berkeley. 540-4114.

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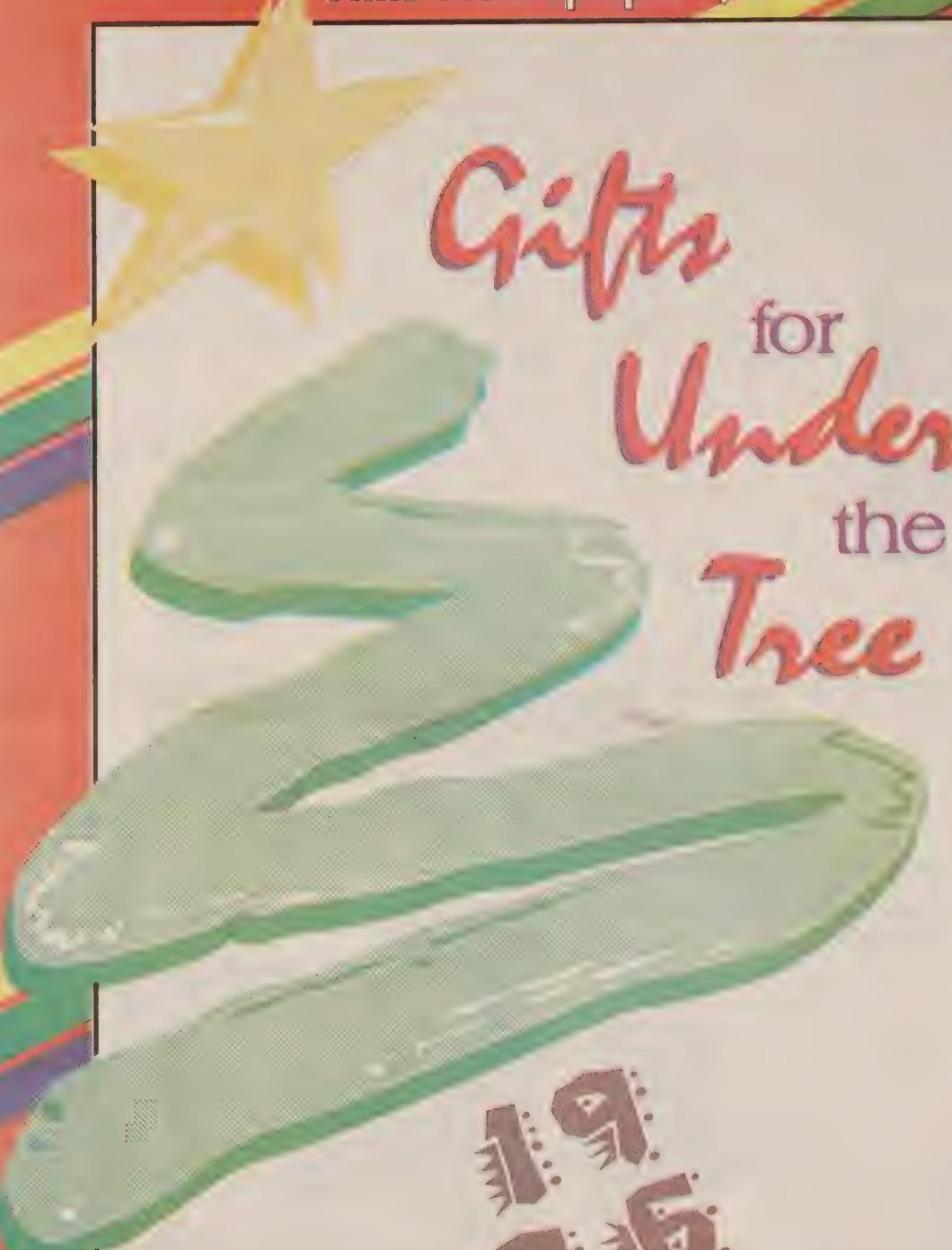
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Hills Newspapers, Inc.



*Gifts
for
Under
the
Tree*

19
86

The Montclarion • Piedmonter • Berkeley Voice • The Journal

Dear Santa, I want one of everything you've got"

Santa Claus, last year I got a sister instead of a bike. Some other boy wanted a bike and got my bike. We have the sister, but I would still like a bike."

was just one of the estimated 10,000 letters and cards sent into post letterboxes

year, sent to Santa Claus, North Alaska, Outer Land and other thousands more received by

as in department stores up

own the country.

of them are the funniest

ever written—full of the

most unintentional

our only children are capable

for, for example, this little Dear Santa, since last year I changed bedrooms. My mama and her cat are in my room now. Don't leave my room there because the cat will be with them."

My mommy says I must go for some clothes as well. I suppose she is right. When I am just a child now, I one day be a man or man."

There was: "You seemed to

have trouble getting my tractor and bicycle last time. Have you tried the Yellow Pages?"

Other children have written asking for another grandad because "I've only got one," and telling Santa, "I like what you are putting in my stocking because I looked on top of the cupboard and I saw them."

"I did not get what I wanted last time. My name is Penny Tomlinson and I am still living at the same house. There is a big 40 on the door."

the other days."

"Please do not come down the chimney. We've got a gas fire."

According to some letters, Santa makes a lot of mistakes at Christmas.

Take the one which said, "I did not get what I wanted last time. My name is Penny Tomlinson and I am still living at the same house. There is a big 40 on the door."

A big-city department store received this message in their Santa box: "You can wake me if you want to. I don't mind. Last year I heard you going to the toilet."

And a young child named Morris said simply, "Dear Santa Claus, I want one of everything you've got."

Six-year-old Robert was more definite. He wrote, "I want a rifle, a pistol, a machine gun, a hand grenade, dynamite and tear gas. I am planning a big surprise for my big brother."

The US post office invites people to "adopt" letters written by truly deprived and unhappy children.

Letters like this were received by the U.S. postal service last year: "Dear Santa, me and my brother are not very happy this Christmas. Our daddy left home in the summer and has not sent any money. Plus my mom is sick and can't get out to work much. We don't have a tree this year and I am afraid we won't have any presents at all."

"Will you please send just a small box of candy to my brother David to make him feel good? Thank you. From your friend, Sammy."

People are invited to drop by the post office and look over letters such as these. They can then adopt a letter and write to the child—anonimously, if they prefer—and perhaps send a card or present.

Finally, how about this warning note from a seven-year-old boy in Britain: "I will not be leaving you a glass of wine this year. Instead, there will be a cup of tea because you cannot drink and drive, even in a sleigh."

Stationery should express writer's individuality

Etiquette mavens from Miss Manners to Emily Post insist there's nothing as gracious as a hand-written letter or note when responding to formal invitations or thanking someone for a gift.

For many households, the closest thing to stationery in the house is a pad of yellow legal paper. Perhaps more of us would be tempted to take pen in hand if we had beautiful stationery on which to write.

Customized stationery is one of those affordable luxuries in which anyone can indulge. Designs available range from traditional script monograms to computer-inspired typography. Papers come in a range of sizes and a rainbow of colors.

Companies such as Smythson of

Bond Street offer watermarked papers that can be hand-bordered with a color of your choice, then paired with envelopes lined in corresponding tissue paper. (Smythson stationery is sold at fine stationers nationwide. Call 1-800-345-6839 for the store nearest you.)

Since 1887, Smythson has offered custom engraving using copper and steel dies hand-cut by expert craftsmen. They can even engrave a drawing of your house on your stationery for the ultimate in individualized writing paper.

For a free catalog of Smythson stationery and diaries, write to



Smythson of Bond Street, 138 Lexington Ave., Dept. NU, New York, NY 10016.

— (News USA)

Two Easy-To-Make Dishes With Crab

salt & freshly ground black pepper

Rinse mushrooms and pat dry. Remove stalks and chop finely. Add crabmeat, cheese, seasoning and chives; stir. Divide mixture between mushrooms. Sprinkle with breadcrumbs.

Bake in lower half of oven for 10-15 minutes at 325° degrees, until golden. Serve as an appetizer. Serves 4

Crab Cakes

8 oz. brown crabmeat
8 oz. potatoes, cooked and mashed
salt & freshly ground black pepper
1/2 small onion, grated
1 Tbsp. parsley
pinch cayenne pepper

1 Tbsp. lemon juice

2 eggs, beaten
flour

2 oz. breadcrumbs

1 oz. oatmeal

oil for shallow frying

Mix together potatoes, crabmeat, seasoning, onion, parsley, cayenne pepper and lemon juice. Bind together with quarter of the beaten egg, and shape into nine cakes, using floured hands.

Mix breadcrumbs and oatmeals together. Dip the cakes in beaten egg and coat with the breadcrumb mixture.

Shallow fry in hot oil for 4-6 minutes, turning once. Makes 9.

Give the gift of elegance.

Mont Blanc LeGrand Ballpoint or Rollerball Pen

Modeled after the large Meisterschick fountain pen, these exquisite pens are especially easy to grasp. Whether you are traveling, sketching or simply writing a letter, the ergonomic balance of these writing instruments ensures you will always experience the same writing comfort.

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Geoff Hoyle...breath-taking virtuosity!

The Scottish Rite Auditorium was crammed to the gills with families, babies, couples, young and old, wide-eyed children...Revels...echoed universal messages that are religious, ethnic, and racial boundaries: the desire for peace, the need for compassion and understanding, and finally, the need for music, without which this season would be a barren indeed. — *East Bay Express*

The Scottish Rite Theater on Lake Merritt 147 Lakeside Drive, Oakland

Seven Performances December 12-15

Adults: \$12, \$22, \$25
Seniors & Children under 12: \$12

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For Women's C
and Acc

This holiday season let us wrap you in something
wonderful. And this New Year, let us wish you de

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Merchants (look for variety show poster).

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and even a few
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and

Monday, December 23rd, 6 - 8 p.m.

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2900 College Ave.



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Create holiday memories at one of a dozen great restaurants serving up everything from traditional roast turkey dinners to exotic cuisines from around the world. Take in the latest holiday blockbuster on one of nine big screens at the cinema. Treat yourself – or someone special – to a relaxing massage or facial at the new salon and spa. For your holiday shopping, there are stores and boutiques with gifts for even the most finicky person on your list. Gift certificates available by calling 510-208-4646.

The holiday season at Jack London Square. It only happens once a year. Don't miss it.

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Victorian Holiday Fair - Sunday, Dec. 15

The Free Event Will Be From

12 Noon to 5pm.

The public is invited to dress in Victorian costumes. There will be special activities for children, stores will offer holiday bargains, and selected restaurants will offer Victorian treats. For additional information call 510-893-7956.

Holiday Fun Begins at the Water's Edge



Entertainment



Shopping



Lodging

Something's always happening at Jack London Square but the holiday season is the most magical time to come experience one of the prettiest places in the Bay Area. Create holiday memories at one of a dozen great restaurants serving up everything from traditional roast turkey dinners to exotic cuisines from around the world. Take in the latest holiday blockbuster on one of nine big screens at the cinema. Treat yourself – or someone special – to a relaxing massage or facial at the new salon and spa. For your holiday shopping, there are stores and boutiques with gifts for even the most finicky person on your list. The holiday season at Jack London Square. It only happens once a year. Don't miss it.



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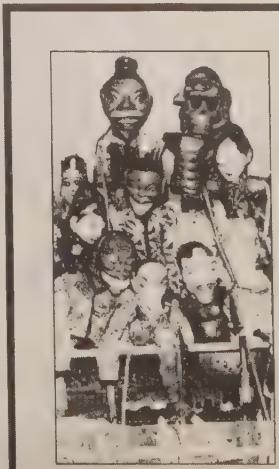
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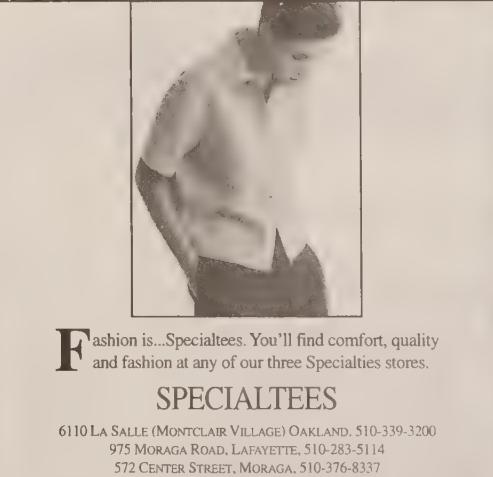
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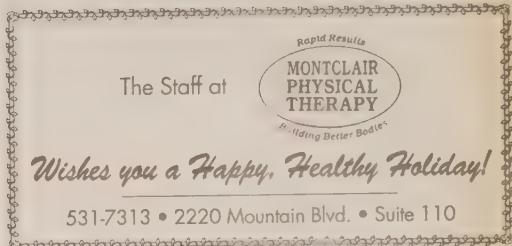
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Try This Christmas Quiz

- What sign of the Zodiac does Christmas fall in?
- Literally, what does Christmas mean?
- What tree is known as the "Christmas tree"?
- What is said to be the oldest and most traditional of Christmas party games?
- When was A Christmas Carol first published by Charles Dickens? (a) 1843, (b) 1898, (c) 1900?
- How was Boxing Day derived?
- What are you supposed to do when you stir a homemade plum pudding?
- When was the first Christmas tree described? (a) 1907, (b) 1705, (c) 1605.
- What was frankincense used for?
- What is myrrh?
- On the 11th day of Christmas what, according to the song, did "my true love bring to me"?
- Twelfth Night is the feast of what, and on which day does it fall each year?
- What were mince pies originally made to symbolize?
- On what tree is mistletoe usually found growing?
- Was Good King Wenceslas a

- real or fictitious character?
- What was the full name of the miser in Dickens' A Christmas Carol?
- Which Christmas song became the biggest-selling pop hit of all time?
- Who had a chart-topping best-selling record with Mary's Boy Child at Christmas 1957?
- Who, or what, were "mummers"?
- What does the word "carol" mean?
- The white-flowered winter-blooming hellebore (Helleborus niger) is better known as what?
- When was Christmas first generally observed? (a) 2nd century (b) 10th century (c) 4th century.
- What day marks the beginning of Christmas in Scandinavia?
- What is the name for Santa Claus in Denmark?
- Most American Christmas foods have their origins in Europe. What is one exception?

Answers

- Capricorn.
- Mass of Christ.
- The spruce.

- Blindman's Bluff.
- 1843.
- It was a day when servants carried boxes around to collect bonuses from their employees.
- Make a wish.
- A visitor to Strasburg wrote, "They have fir trees here decorated with paper roses, apples, sugar, gold and wafers."
- Embalming.
- An aromatic resin, prized as a perfume and a medicine.
- Eleven pipers piping.
- Epiphany, celebrated on January 6.
- The manger.
- Apple trees (and sometimes oak, too).
- Real. He was a good king of Czechoslovakia who was murdered by his jealous brother.
- Ebenezer Scrooge.
- Irving Berlin's White Christmas recorded by Bing Crosby in 1942.
- Harry Belafonte.
- Actors and actresses in Middle Ages who went from house to house performing plays, especially at Christmas.
- Joyous song.
- The Christmas Rose.
- 4th century AD.
- St. Lucia's Day on December 13.
- Julenisse.
- The cranberry, which was introduced to the Pilgrims by native Americans.

Tips to prevent fraud during the holiday season

Thirty-three percent of all credit card purchases take place between Thanksgiving and Christmas each year. Along with the hordes of shoppers comes a heightened potential for fraud.

Fraud never takes a holiday, and this season is a peak time when people are vulnerable, according to Charlotte Rush, a vice president of Consumer Affairs for MasterCard International.

"Although new technologies such as encrypted security codes and computers that uncover atypical charge activity have reduced fraud losses, shoppers continue to be at risk during this time of year as billions of dollars nationwide are charged to credit cards for gifts and travel expenses," Rush said.

Protect Yourself

Criminals are ready to take advantage of the holiday surge in credit card spending, so Rush urges cardholders to take the following steps to help protect themselves before and during their shopping trips:

- Sign new cards as soon as

you receive them.

- When leaving home, take only the cards you need.
- Keep cards in your wallet or purse, not in your pocket.
- Keep a list of account and issuer phone numbers in a safe place.
- Check sales receipts for accuracy before signing.
- Make sure the sales clerk returns your card.
- Keep carbons from sales receipts or insist that the sales clerk tear them up.
- Keep all credit card receipts.
- If your card is lost or stolen and you don't have the issuer's phone number handy, you can call MasterCard at 1-800-247-4623, or call collect for out-of-the-country calls at 314-275-6690. If necessary, a replacement card can be issued within 24 hours in the United States and 48 hours overseas.
- MasterCard offers three free brochures that shoppers will find helpful: *Defending Yourself Against Credit Card Fraud*, *Shopping With Your ATM Card* and *How To Be A Smart Shopper*. To order, call 1-800-999-5136.

If You Become A Victim

- Contact the card through its 800 number directly. With MasterCard Cardholder Protection Program, consumers are not responsible for unauthorized credit card use if they report a card lost or stolen within 24 hours of discovery.
- Follow up with the card writing, stating that an unauthorized charge was made to distinguish it from a billing error. Cardholders are protected by the Fair Credit Billing Act if they report the incident in writing.
- Call the issuer if a reissued card does not arrive.
- Pay at least the minimum all undisputed charges.

Consumers worldwide access MasterCard "Pointers" MasterCard World Wide Web on the Internet—by entering Internet address on their computer: <http://www.mastercard.com>

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Ways To Downsize Your Holiday Stress.

buying the tree, shopping for gifts, planning the Christmas dinner, and even baking cookies for the kids, you also need to find the time to clean the house for family and guests. Often we hear others wondering how to get it all done. Here are a few tips to consider.

Planning, organization and proper storage can all make a big difference by managing the workload and easing the stress. Start by using a calendar to organize and assign tasks. Get family members involved and work

together as a team. This will get the jobs done faster. While cleaning the house, it's likely that you'll find a lot of things that clutter. Take these extra items to a self-storage unit. That way you'll make room, but still be able to keep, and get to, your things as needed.

Don't wait until next year to have

more space. With over 25 years

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TELEGRAPH AVENUE: 13th Annual Telegraph Ave. Holiday Street Fair December 14, 15, 21, 22 & 23. • Berkeley Art Museum Starting Dec. 11, The Mask of Venice. Staring Dec. 18, Masterworks of Greek & Roman Art • Pacific Film Archive (Durant & Duran) Nov. 30 & Dec. 1, Teddy Bear Film Festival; Dec. 13 Mozart's Magic Flute • Cal Performances at Zellerbach Hall Dec. 14-21, Mark Morris Dance Group, The Hard Hat; Dec. 8, Fiesta Navidad

NORTH SHATTUCK VILLAGE: Come Home for the Holidays! Fulfill that holiday gift list by shopping at your local neighborhood, the North Shattuck Village. Everything you need is at your fingertips. Enjoy marching your way through our Gourmet Ghetto while shopping & gift buying. Special holiday music will be featured on Saturdays, Dec. 7, 14 & 21

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UNIVERSITY AVENUE: Ride the free shuttle bus and visit some of the oldest and newest restaurants & businesses in Berkeley Au Coquetai Cafe • Ay Carumba! • Brennan's Restaurant • Cafe Venezia • Kiss • Spenger's Fish Grotto • The Counter • Ajanta Enterprises India • Al Lasier Electronics • Andromeda's Market • Bazaar of India • Berkeley Ace Hardware • Bombay Jewelry • Costless Imports • Darling Flower Shop • The Sound Well • Ifshin Violins • NBM Computers • Pier One Imports • Rex Key & Security • The Audio Chamber

FOURTH STREET: Shop late on Fourth Street every Thursday evening until 8pm during the holiday season

ADELINA/ASHBY SOUTH BERKELEY Close to the Ashby BART Station, enjoy relaxed, fun shopping for antiques, collectibles, textiles, designer furnishings, sporting goods, musical instruments & food

ELMWOOD DISTRICT: Lighting Up the Elmwood Dec. 3, 7pm. Tree Lighting Festivities at College & Ashby. Free Hot Cider! • Variety Show at the Elmwood Theatre Dec. 14, 10-11:15am, for children under 12 sponsored by Trips Out Travel. Free tickets available from Elmwood merchants • Neighborhood Caroling Dec. 20 & 23, 6-8pm. Meet in front of Elmwood Pharmacy.

DOWNTOWN BERKELEY ASSOCIATION invites holiday shoppers & restaurant goers to enjoy caroling in BART Plaza each Saturday before Christmas. Choirs representing many denominations will perform from noon to 4 on Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14 & 21. Thanks to City of Berkeley, Berk. Rep. Theatre, Tupper & Reed Music and BOSS for making this event possible

FREE BERKELEY SHOPPING LOOP SHUTTLE Take the Berkeley Electric Shuttle Transit (BEST) on a shopping loop through Albany & Berkeley during the holiday season. Originating at the downtown BART station, the BEST will run on Sat. & Sun. 11-7pm from Nov. 30 through Dec. 22 every half hour for free! Info - 549-7000

Fourth Street

Christmas In April USA

the leading national volunteer organization that rehabilitates houses of low-income and disabled homeowners so that they may live in warmth, safety and independence. Our chapter rehabilitated 31 homes and community centers throughout Berkeley and Albany this past April making an estimated \$450,000 worth of repairs with 1400 volunteers.

This work was made possible through generous contributions from individuals, organizations and businesses like yours. Fifty dollars can install smoke detectors and handrails in a two-story home; \$100 can pour new concrete steps; \$250 can replace water heater, flue pipe and leaky rain lines; \$500 installs a wheelchair

lift and handicap access; \$1250 will totally rehabilitate a medium size home. Through fund-matching programs and volunteer labor, a donation of \$5,000 nets \$30,000 worth of repairs.

This is a great team-building project for you and your employees. Everyone who participates goes home at the end of the day with a sense of accomplishment and camaraderie. Just think how much fun you all could have! So take out your checkbooks and your datebooks. Sign up for volunteering and mail us a check for your year-end charitable contribution. And make it as big as you can! You can call their office for more info: 510/644-8980.



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Daily 10-5:30
Thursdays 'till 7
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ELICA'S PAPER

Be An Angel This Holiday Season

Join the Berkeley Chamber of Commerce and the
Salvation Army in bringing holiday joy to those less
fortunate by buying a gift for a child

Angel cards are available return it (unwrapped) at the Chamber office along with the angel card Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - to the Chamber or 12 p.m. and 1:30 - 5:00 p.m. (1834 University Avenue, 2nd Floor) or the Salvation Army (1535 University Avenue). Each card lists a child's name, age and a gift they would like. You would purchase the gift, or one of your own choosing, and

return it (unwrapped) to the Chamber or 12 p.m. and 1:30 - 5:00 p.m. (1834 University Avenue, 2nd Floor) or the Salvation Army (1535 University Avenue). Each card lists a child's name, age and a gift they would like. You would purchase the gift, or one of your own choosing, and

donations are one hundred percent tax deductible.

Map of Fourth Street



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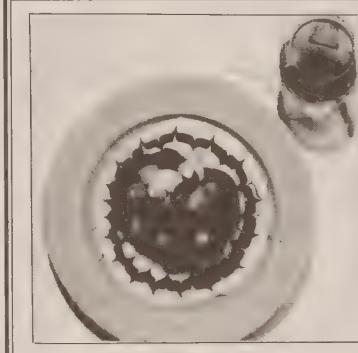
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One of the more colorful shops on Solano Avenue is Sisters. This location at 1250 Solano Ave. in Albany has been an antique and second hand shop for several decades. The merchandise never seems to go out of style.



We've got gently used toys & childhood treasures at great prices. [See Us First!](#)
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Creative Cuisine with an Asian Flair

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Shop
Solano
this
Holiday
Season!

SOLANO ORIENTAL RUG GALLERY



Our Holiday Sale Has Been Extended

Due to several new shipments of magnificent Oriental rugs we continue to offer you the savings for the holidays. Come see our tribal pieces including Gabbeh, Bakhtiar, Heriz, Baft, and our many decorative antique rugs. Expert cleaning and restoration always



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1775 Solano Ave., Berkeley • (510) 528-7847
One of the Largest Oriental Rug Galleries in the Bay Area for Decades



Holiday Happenings on Solano

Children's Entertainment

• California Theater Arts Young Carolers will be strolling Solano Sat., Dec. 21, 1-3 p.m. in Dickens-style costumes. • Brother & sister, Alex (8) and Rebecca (11) Pfeifer-Rosenblum play guitar and sing at Grace Baking, 1127 Solano from 2-4 p.m., on Dec. 14. • Members of the Albany Music Boosters Band will lead a holiday sing-along on Thurs., Dec. 12, 6-8 p.m. and on Sundays, Dec. 15 & 22, 12-2 p.m. at the Berkeley Bakery, 1561 Solano.

Victorian Carolers!

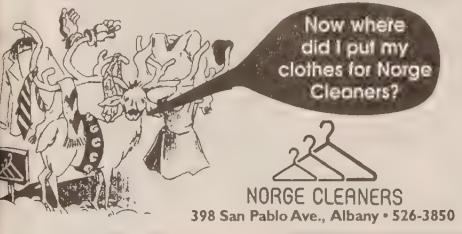
• Members of The Next Stage's Poor But Honest Players will roam upper Solano Avenue Sunday, Dec. 22 from 2-5 p.m. causing a bit of merriment by singing your name into their holiday carols.

INTERNATIONAL MUSIC!

• Bread & Roses pianist, Wendy Worsley, sings favorite carols from 3-5 p.m., Dec. 21 at Half Price Books, 1849 Solano. • The lighted trees at Peralta Park set the stage for the Berkeley Community Chamber Chorus on Thurs., Dec. 19, 6-7 p.m.

Mrs. Claus

Mrs. Claus will take messages home to Santa on Saturdays, Dec. 14 & 21, from 11-1 p.m. She will lead children in sing-alongs, give out candy canes and she will be available for photos with kids or pets. (\$2) at Peralta Park.



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Ever seen a walking, talking Christmas tree?

On Thursday evenings during the holiday season, you might find yourself approached by a "live" Christmas tree on Solano Ave. in Berkeley and Albany. This joke-telling wonder even lights up at times. Give the tree a "shake!"

Wreaths

• Garlands • Holly
• Mistletoe
• Giant Poinsettias
\$9.95
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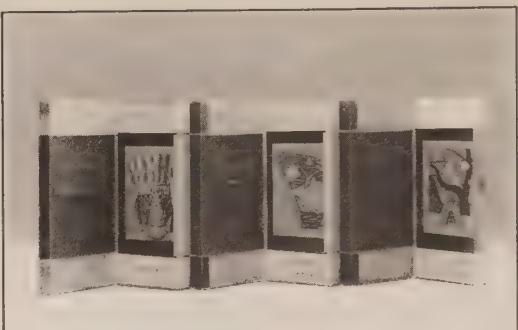
"Science Imagined" - an exhibition of the Book as Art

Exhibit explores confluence of Art and Science

Where do art and science meet? What is common to both disciplines and how are they different? A challenging exhibition of artists books offers some answers to these and other more probing and presently unanswerable questions in a major new installation curated by book artist and conservator of paper, Susannah Hays. *Science Imagined* runs through December 29, 1996, at the Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Walnut Street in Berkeley's Live Oak Park. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 12 - 5 p.m. and admission is free. The Gallery will be closed Christmas Day. The exhibition includes nationally known book artists with work submitted from across the country as well as from Canada and Europe.

Some of the more notable producers of fine press editions and unique books among the nearly 70 artists participating are Leda Black, Kathleen Burch, Marylee Bytheriver, Julie Chen, Marie Dern, Francoise Deschamps, Dale Going, Alisa Golden, Georgianna Greenwood, Charles Hobson, Diane Jacobs, Nancy Ruth Leavitt, Judith Mohns, Katherine Ng, Nance O'Banion, Lynne Prather, Anne Schwartzburg, Donna & Peter Thomas, and Dorothy A. Yule.

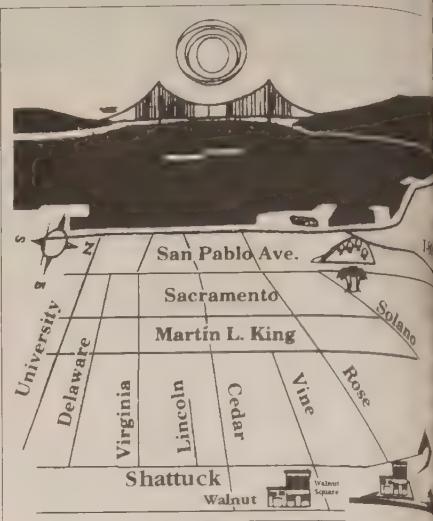
Many of the books resulted from collaborations with scientists and the topics covered include: astronomy, anatomy, chemistry, engineering, genetics, medicine, magnetism, meteorology, natural sciences (from botany to zoology), psychology and physics.



ics, medicine, magnetism, meteorology, natural sciences (from botany to zoology), psychology and physics.

Other books focus on the method, philosophy and practice of science, biographies of scientists and meditations on the relationships of science to art.

Work ranges from exquisitely crafted volumes, to humorous structures while content moves from the puzzling to the hilarious to the serious, "hard" science facts.



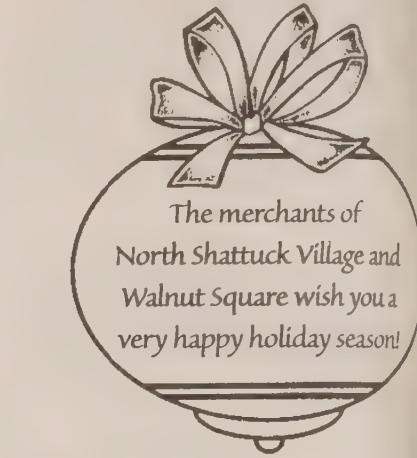
Getting to North Shattuck Village and the "Gourmet Ghetto" has never been so easy!

No meters, no parking hassles, just jolly good fun! Take the Berkeley Electric Shuttle Transit (BEST) on a shopping loop through Berkeley and Albany during the holiday season.

Visit nine of Berkeley's shopping districts, each with their own distinctive quality. Downtown Berkeley, North Shattuck, Solano Avenue, Gilman Street, Fourth Street, University Avenue, Adeline/Alcatraz, Elmwood and Telegraph Avenue.

Originating at the downtown BART station, the BEST will run on Saturdays and Sundays, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. from now through December 22nd. Shuttles will run approximately every half hour and are free for all riders.

Info - 549-7000.



SAVE \$1.00 **SAVE \$1.00**

On 1 lb. of Butter Cookies On 1 loaf Cranberry Nutbread

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"Science Imagined"

An Exhibition of Books as Art through Dec. 29
Free admission ■ Wednesday through Sunday 12 - 5 p.m.
Join us on Dec. 19 at 7:30 p.m. for a panel on collaboration
between artists and scientists — Refreshments served

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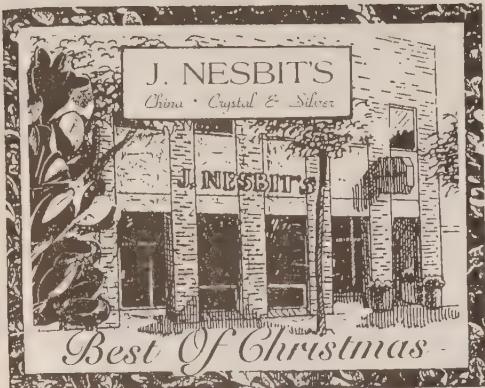
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\$10 haircut
exp. 1/30/97 • with coupon only

Reg. \$12.00
Open everyday

845-7553

The Downtown Berkeley Association invites holiday shoppers, restaurant and theatre go-ers to enjoy caroling in BART Plaza each Saturday before Christmas.

Choirs representing various denominations will perform. The Holiday Caroling Program is the result of a collaborative effort by the Downtown Berkeley Association, City of Berkeley, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, and Tupper & Reed Music.

Downtown Berkeley Holiday Caroling in BART Plaza

December 14 • 12 noon to 4 p.m.
December 21 • 12 noon to 4 p.m.

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1563 Solano Ave.
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HOLIDAY HOURS
DEC. 11-21
Mon-Fri. 8am-7pm
Sat-Sun. 8am-5pm

Toys for Tots Drop off

Business associations throughout Berkeley will sponsor a free holiday shopping shuttle connecting Downtown to other Berkeley shopping districts. Available on Saturdays and Sundays in December from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., the shuttle service will replace last year's free, 2-hour meter parking program.

This holiday season, shoppers will notice many new downtown businesses including Egghead Software, Sonoma Valley Bagels, Berkeley Billiards, Off Center Gallery, Lazer X, Mailboxes Etc., Addison Annex Cafe, and the return of J. Nesbit's fine gifts.

ACE
Berkeley Hardware
Open Daily 9-6, Sundays 10-5
2145 UNIVERSITY (1/2 BLK. FROM U.C.)
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Complete Hardware • Hobbies & Crafts

What's Happening!

★ **FREE** weekend shuttle from 11am to 7pm:

- ★ December 14/15
- ★ December 21/22

★ **HOLIDAY** Caroling BART Plaza from 12pm to 4pm:

- ★ Saturday, December 14
- ★ Saturday, December 21

This coop advertisement brought to you by the Downtown Berkeley Association

**Visit
Downtown
Berkeley
this holiday
season**

- Holiday Caroling
- Free Weekend Shuttle
- Hundreds of Shops
- Eclectic restaurants and coffee houses

Give the gift of health

Purchase a gift certificate at the Downtown Berkeley YMCA (good for massages, sweatshirts, enrollment fees and more), and we'll even give you the stocking to stuff it in!

Happy Holidays!

Y
The YMCA.
We build strong kids,
strong families, strong communities.

Downtown Berkeley YMCA
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JOURNEY TO THE WEST

Based on the most popular Buddhist classic, this enchanting story at once funny and profound, recounts the fantastical exploits of the monk Tripitaka and his supernatural animal companions as they travel on a quest for spiritual enlightenment.

adapted and directed by
Mary Zimmerman

produced in association with Huntington Theatre Company

For Group Discounts Call (510) 204-8901

November 29 - January 19
At Zellerbach Playhouse on the U.C. Berkeley campus

RepTix (510) 845-4700

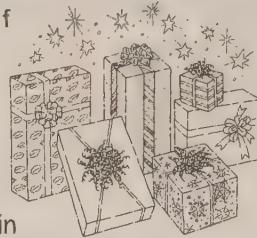
Spend Your Holiday With Us!

Lakeshore

Holiday Activity On Lakeshore

Conveniently located off of Interstate 580, Lakeshore Avenue offers a variety of holiday shopping options.

Restaurants, home furnishings, appliances, pets, hardware items, clothing and works of art are just a sampling of what's in



store for you here.

Lakeshore Avenue welcomes the season with a visit from Santa on Saturday, December 21 at We Are Hair from 1:00 p.m. In addition to sending along holiday cheer, Santa will be passing out goodies and be available for photos with the kids.

Refreshments will be available as well.

The Lakeshore Avenue Merchants Association welcomes one and all to enjoy a day filled with fun, shopping and entertainment for the whole family.

We Are Hair...a day spa!

30% Off Gift Certificates Available

3319 Lakeshore Ave. • Oakland, CA 94610

Phone 510-893-5255

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Golden Oak finish
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LIMIT 1 PER CUSTOMER
Sugg. Retail \$59.95
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KENTWORTH
Sugg. Retail \$1495
Oak Yorkshire finish
Westminster chime
83" tall



SUTHERLAND
Sugg. Retail \$655
Golden Oak finish
Triple chimes, 20-1/2" wide

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LAURELTON
Sugg. Retail \$550
Golden Oak finish
Westminster chime
22" tall



GIFT WRAP

KENTWORTH
Sugg. Retail \$1495
Oak Yorkshire finish
Westminster chime
83" tall



SUTHERLAND
Sugg. Retail \$655
Golden Oak finish
Triple chimes, 20-1/2" wide



YOUR CHOICE \$999



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Holiday Window Decorations Now On Display

Grand Avenue, located off of Interstate 580, is holding a very special contest this holiday season. Stroll along the avenue and take in the display of window decorations as you

shop. Send or drop off your opinion of the "Best Christmas Window" on the street by Monday, December 23 to:

Body Essentials
3223 Grand Ave.
Oakland, CA 94610
(510) 893-5757

In addition to the contest, a Sidewalk Saturday is scheduled for Saturday, December 14. Look for sidewalk specials, balloons and fun for all.

Grand Avenue has been home to the historical Grand Lake Theatre since 1926, providing recognition to the area as well as the city of Oakland. Children can enjoy matinee performances during the holidays and gift certificates are always available.

Need a shopping break? Stop by any of the restaurants located along the avenue and experience cui-

sines that range from Italian to Ethiopian to Chinese to Cajun.

A recognized area that offers many service busi-

nesses, Grand Avenue brings the past and present together to present an eclectic holiday shopping opportunity.

Santa Lives at Black Hearts

Unique gifts •
Collectables •
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• Sarah's
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• Positive Images
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Monday - Friday 9-6, Saturday 9-4

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Rockridge



Women walking tall bring holiday spirit to the avenue every Sunday before Christmas

Spirits, Stilt Walkers & Bagpipes on College Avenue

This quaint neighborhood known as the Rockridge District runs along College Avenue between Broadway and Alcatraz in Oakland.

Expect a multitude of shopping conveniences and choices here - from fresh meats and produce to dining and eclectic gift shops.

Every Sunday before Christmas from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., the street will come alive with the exciting presence of stilt walkers "Women Walking Tall," carolers, face painting, musicians, and chestnut roasting. The activity takes place just above Market Hall between Jucy's to Design Connections.

Join the College Avenue Presbyterian Church for a Bagpipe led procession from the Rockridge BART station at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday, December 22. Call 547-3053 for details.



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HOLIDAY HOURS
DEC. 11-21
Mon-Fri. 8am-7pm
Sat-Sun. 9am-5pm



MAIL BOXES ETC.[®]

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(at College)

2342 Shattuck Ave.
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547-6384

1563 Solano Ave.
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843-8288

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547-4005

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654-3474

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653-0450



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547-5839

Bloomies
547-0444

Market Hall Produce
601-8208

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- Gift Baskets
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- Gifts of Food

Rockridge Market Hall
5655 College Avenue

at BART
in North Oakland

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Open M-F till 8pm
Saturday till 7pm
Sunday till 6pm

*shipped nationwide



Photo by Jeff Lindquist

A bagpipe led procession will begin at BART.

30/30 SPECIAL*

- ★ \$30 OFF ENROLLMENT FEE
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FitLab's 30-Minute Total Body Workout Includes:

- ★ Aerobic Conditioning and Cardiorespiratory Fitness
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Call today for your FREE trial session appointment.

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by phone
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BOTTLES & BEVERAGES

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RESORT • SPA • TENNIS CLUB

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Piedmont Avenue



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2 Hours of FREE Parking
Saturdays in December
at all parking meters
in Oakland!!!

Discover the appeal of this quaint shopping area. Located between Broadway and Pleasant Valley Road, Piedmont Avenue's holiday decorations continue to project a delightful spirit year after year. Treat yourself this holiday to friendly neighborhood shopping where unique gifts, fine dining and quality services are available year round.



4020 Piedmont Ave.
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Holiday Special!
10% OFF everything
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Bernina 1000 for \$499, the Bernina 1001 for
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for just \$999, and ends December 31st, 1996.
Prices reflect \$100 trade-in while supplies last.

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(510) 658-7363

MON-SAT 10:5:30pm
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Overheard at Folks' Art



"You have the best earring selection."

"I can always find the perfect gift."

"I really appreciate the gift box."

"What smells so good in here?"

"Thank you for being here!"

"You've been a great help!"

"This is my favorite store!"

"Folks' Art, my safety net."

"Beautiful jewelry boxes!"

"I love this store!"

4158 Piedmont Avenue, Oakland • 653-5448 • Open till 7 weekdays

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THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Give One of the
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University Avenue

University Avenue: Gateway To Berkeley

University Avenue is not just a street you take to get to the heart of Berkeley, it's a diverse cultural and mercantile experience. If you slow the ride down in your mind, you're sure to agree. From the marina to the U.C. Campus, there is a lot to offer on this well known street. The length and diversity is not only a great strength, but sometimes a problem, as you can imagine, and the University Avenue Association has been formed to champion these strengths for both merchants and Residents alike.

One of the things we take pride in, is the new trees and wild poppies in the center divide along University Avenue. New housing and businesses are springing up too. More customers each day are discovering Spun Sugar, Berkeley Brewhaus, New Kids in Town, KISS Restaurant, Lotus Princess and Berkeley Windsurfing & Snowboards, just to name a few.

But some of Berkeley's old and true institutions have remained to withstand the test of time. These

include Amsterdam Art, Brennan's and Spenger's Restaurants at the base of University Avenue, Andronico's and Al Lasher's Electronics in the middle, and of course, Berkeley Ace Hardware at the top of the street.

The East Indian culture is a real strength to the avenue. With import shops that have beautiful clothing, 110-220 volt appliances, spices and jewelry, you would have to travel to India to equal the selection. Below San Pablo there is Bombay Jewelry with

wedding rings and 24 carat gold necklaces, Roma Electronics with 220 volt appliances and just across from the new housing complex at 1801 University, Bazaar of India has rare spices to give your meal that eastern flavor it needs. That's only a sampling of the over 20 Indian run businesses on University Avenue.

Restaurants add to the flavor of University Avenue. Besides Brennan's and Spenger's, there's Venezia, Au Coquelet and Santa Fe Bar & Grill. In fact, Santa Fe is one of the most beautiful build-

ings, architecturally, in Berkeley. You'll find numerous vegetarian restaurants and foods from around the world on University Avenue. So come visit us; by car, bus or bike. You can even ride the FREE shopper's shuttle on weekends in December.

Enjoy your holidays and we hope you include University Avenue in your shopping or sightseeing plans.



Imagine...
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"Imports From India - Books, Gifts & Clothes"

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Berkeley Chamber of Commerce • 1834 University Ave.

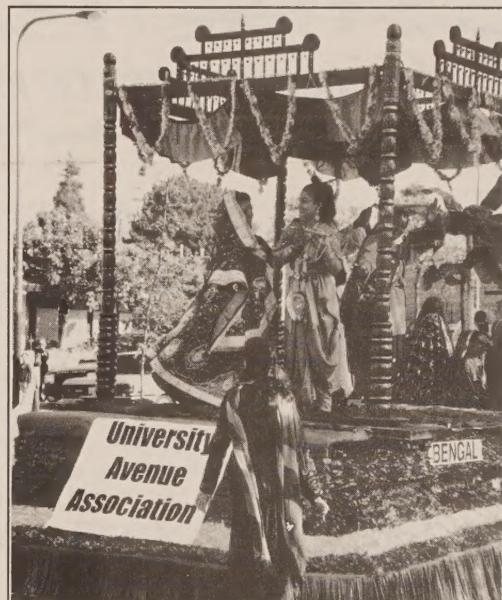
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Berkeley Convention & Visitors Bureau • 1834 University Ave.

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- * Bock Beer
- * Brew Parties

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Gift Guide in
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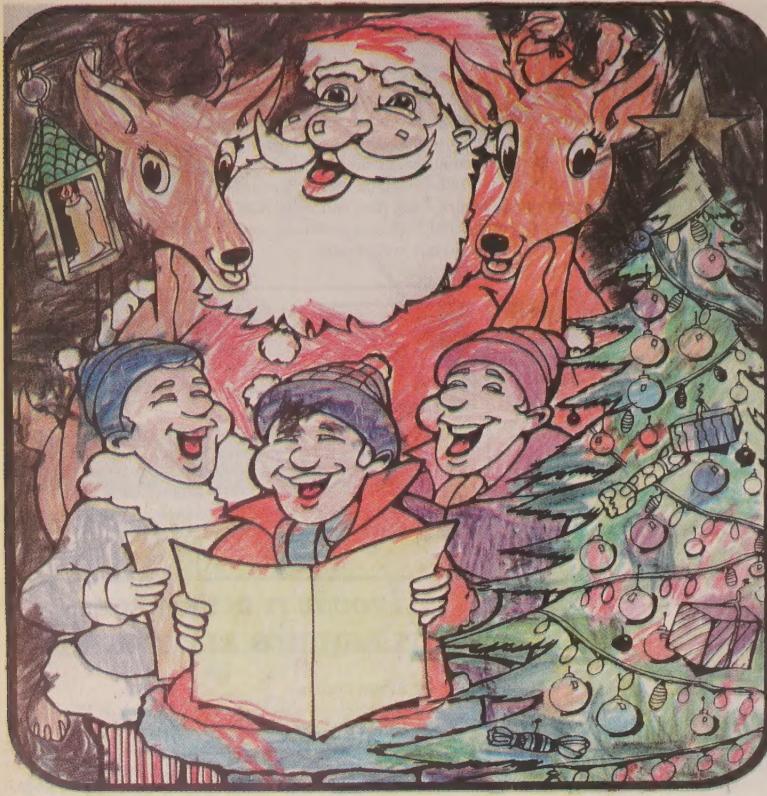
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Kids Holiday Colors



By: HENRY TREADWAY Age: 5



By: Kara Piganelli

City Center



Join CITY CENTER at 12th Street and Broadway in Downtown Oakland for large scale fun this Holiday Season! Enjoy free entertainment, shop, dine or adopt a pet amidst the Toyland Christmas Morning decorations in City Square and throughout CITY CENTER'S building lobbies!

Life sized toy soldiers and nutcrackers will guard half opened packages and oversized toys amid a forest of holiday trees. The Annual Mayor's and Marine Corps Toy Drive kicked off from City Center December 4th.

Santa Arrives on the BART Santa Express December 1st. will be at CITY CENTER 11am to 6pm. December 18th (except Sunday). Dickens Costumed Carolers, Opera Piccola will be appearing nightly 4:30 to 6:00pm. December 18th (except Sunday). the SPCA will have pets available for adoption (or gift certificates for pets as gifts) December 4, 6, 18 & 20 in a store window decorated as Mrs. Claus' bathroom. Other retail store windows will be decorated as an Elf's bathroom (complete with Elf in clawfoot tub) and Santa to stop. All entertainment and events are FREE and in place in City Square unless otherwise noted.

A tree without roots falls over. Give your child a strong foundation at

Cynthia's Educational Toys & Games

Featuring Multicultural Toys, Dolls and Books from Around the World.

City Center Square
510-14th Street
Oakland
(510) 452-4099

10-6pm Mon-Fri
Noon-4pm Sat.

Cynthia's Educational Toys & Games

DECEMBER 10
11:30-1:30 - Lobby Concert - 1111 Broadway
Mother & Daughter Violin Duet

DECEMBER 11
Noon Holiday Concert - Cats N'Jammers
SPCA Adoptions - 11am- 5pm

DECEMBER 12
11:30-1:30 - Lobby Concert - 1111 Broadway
Cello & Violin Duet

DECEMBER 13
Noon Holiday Concert - Dr. Elmo ("Grandma Got Run Over By A Reindeer" recording artist)
SPCA adoptions 11am-5pm.

DECEMBER 17
11:30-1:30 - Lobby Concert - 1111 Broadway -
Reid Fromer on Piano

DECEMBER 18
BART Santa Express - Join Santa on the BART Express from North Concord at 11:00. Followed by a Noon Holiday Concert by Cotton Candy Express. - Hosts of the KTVU/FOX Kids Club show. Santa will be here 11am to 6pm. Dec. 18-24th (except Sunday). SPCA Adoptions - 11am - 5pm.

DECEMBER 19
Santa's Elves Pick Up the Toy Drive Toys - Noon Lobby Event & Concert - 1111 Broadway
Children's Choir, Marine Color Guard, Toy Drive Santa - 11am-6pm, City Square

DECEMBER 20
Noon Holiday Concert - The Edlos. Santa - 11am-6pm. City Square.
SPCA Adoptions - 11am-5pm

DECEMBER 21
Santa - 11am-6pm - City Square
Dickens costumed Carolers, Opera Piccola, 4:30-6pm.

DECEMBER 23
Santa - 11am-6pm - City Square
Dickens costumed Carolers, Opera Piccola, 4:30-6pm.

DECEMBER 24
11am-1pm - Lobby Concert- 1111 Broadway
Benny Watson on Piano.
Santa - 11am-6pm - City Square
Dickens Costumed Carolers, Opera Piccola, 4:30-6pm

CITY CENTER wishes you a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!
For more information - (510) 874-7808

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